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TOWN PLANNING AND RECONSTRUCTION

IT may be regarded as most satisfactory that the Ministry of Town and Country Planning have issued, so soon after the passing of their planning Bill, two memoranda expressing their views as to the methods for putting this into operation. The first of these, Circular No. 5, is perhaps the more important from our point of view, and we print, on page 407, some of its more important paragraphs. The second, Circular No. 6, deals with administrative procedure under four heads:—(1) The appointment of a planning officer, (2) the appointment of a planning consultant, (3) the part-time use of a planning officer lent by a neighbouring authority, and (4) temporary surveillance by a group of technical officers. The choice between these four methods, or combinations of these, will depend on local conditions and the urgency of the local planning problem. It is suggested that local authorities, in making that choice, should seek the advice of the Regional Planning Officer, whose duty it is to co-ordinate planning work in his area.

The appointment of a planning officer is especially desirable when extensive areas are being brought under control for the first time. He will, of course, require further assistance by means of a well-qualified consultant or a staff of experts at a later stage. To aid him in securing this, a Central Register of qualified planners has been prepared by the Ministry. It is laid down that a consultant should either work in conjunction with a local planning officer or that he, or one of his qualified assistants, should spend the greater part of his time in the area to be planned. It is also indicated that smaller areas may adopt some form of pooling their technical staffs, and may obtain guidance in this from the County Planning Officer.

Returning to Circular No. 5, we find in it proposals of great interest to all those who visualise a really well-considered programme for future planning; it only claims to deal with such a programme in the broadest outline, but it gives scope for contributions to it from all those whose good will and qualifications justify their taking part in the reconstruction needed to provide for a communal life conforming to the best imaginable standards. Planning authorities are invited to consider proposals from housing and other bodies, but before coming to decisions they will require to be adequately informed of all factors affecting the future of their district.

For this purpose a comprehensive survey of all the relative conditions is necessary, and though the hint is given that time may not permit of this being as full as might be desirable, we think the attitude taken as to this rather unduly pessimistic. The Ministry does not appear to realise the wide range of voluntary effort which outside the official bodies, is actively engaged on the preliminary survey work so essential as a preparation for planning on sound lines. We recently reported on a good illustrative example of this for the city of Hull, and since then an exhibition showed some excellent work in East Anglia carried out by officers of the Suffolk County Council. Then again, the R.I.B.A., with the support of nearly all their Allied Societies, are making studies for the major part of Great Britain as a whole, including all the more densely populated areas. The architects working on this are not limiting the range of these studies to building matters alone, but are endeavouring to draw support from the engineering, educational, medical and other professions, realising that one of the main assets of an architect is his value as a liaison between the various forms of activity aiming at a beneficent organisation of communal welfare.

There is every reason to assume that if the Ministry were to make closer contacts with the scientific and professional bodies, now so definitely interested and active in the study of economic and social conditions throughout the country, a great deal of information of the utmost value to future planning could be placed at the disposal of the authorities in an appropriate form for utilisation by the time adequate material and labour are available. There seems to be a fairly clear idea as to what is needed among the leaders, but it is an urgent matter to get this diffused through the less advanced of those bodies on whom will devolve the task of administration.

The establishment of a Ministry of Reconstruction under Lord Woolton will have most interesting repercussions on the above questions by reason of the inevitably close connection between this and the Ministry of Town and Country Planning. It is not easy to visualise a line of demarcation between the functions of the two Ministries, but we can only assume that the new one will be charged with duties vitally affecting the planning operations, and, having regard to the very active and successful career of Lord Woolton, that many important decisions will be made by him influencing town and country planning operations and the order in which these can be undertaken. In any case, it is yet a further guarantee that the schemes for the future will show a considered relationship between social welfare and the national resources, and this harmony cannot be ensured without most detailed studies of both these factors.

NOTES AND NEWS

The Minister of Reconstruction.

No Ministerial appointment within recent years has been received with more satisfaction and pleasure than the appointment, as first Minister of Reconstruction, of Lord Woolton—satisfaction which is enhanced by the knowledge that, in setting up this Ministry, the Government has taken a tangible step towards reducing the spate of reports and expressions of opinion on reconstruction to a practical plan. Lord Woolton receives, we understand, full authority to deal with all aspects of post-war reconstruction policy and has been given a seat in the War Cabinet, whose intention to provide "food, work and homes for all" was recently expressed by Mr. Churchill at the Mansion House.

Lord Woolton's qualifications for his post are extensive. His business experience as chairman before the war of Lewis's, Ltd. (he was then Sir Frederick Marquis), was considerable; during that time his interest in art in industry was marked by his presidency of the Design and Industries Association and the chairmanship of the Board of Trade Committee on Art and Industry. He was also a director of several banks and insurance companies. Equally important has been his knowledge of social problems. He was a Research Fellow in Economics of Manchester University and sometime Warden of the University Settlement, Liverpool. He has served on several Government Committees on subjects ranging from overseas trade to the Cadman Committee on Civil Aviation.

All this denotes a keen interest in social problems, backed by business and industrial experience, which would give confidence in the Cabinet's choice even had Lord Woolton not his pre-eminently successful record as Minister of Food. In this latter post, which he has held flawlessly for three and a half years, Lord Woolton has earned himself a place in the national esteem and confidence which will extend to his new and vital position. The new Minister, whose photograph appears on this page, is 60.

The R.I.B.A. Secretaryship.

On Sir Ian MacAlister's retirement on December 31, Mr. C. D. Spragg, who has been Assistant Secretary for the past seventeen years, will take over the duties of Secretary of the Royal Institute of British Architects until the end of the war.

Mr. J. B. Turner has been appointed Acting Assistant Secretary. He will take up his duties on December 1.

A.B.S.: The President's Appeal.

The good work for all architects, not only members of the Royal Institute, which the Architects' Benevolent Society is doing must be close to the heart of every member of the profession. Unemployment is not at present a serious problem, but age, illness or loss of sight is causing many applications for help. There is also an increasing number of cases of young widows with young families to support, whose husbands' deaths have been caused either directly by the war or through overwork and overstrain in war conditions. In a Christmas appeal to his brother-architects, Mr. Percy Thomas, P.R.I.B.A., asks: "Will you help us to grant aid where it is sorely needed by sending at least one half-crown? More if you are able, but the smallest sum will be received with gratitude." Gifts should be sent to Mr. Thomas, President, Architects' Benevolent Society, at 66, Portland-place, W.1.

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R.I.A.I. Presidency.

Mr. Vincent Kelly has been elected President of the Royal Institute of Architects in Ireland. For the first time within memory, the choice went to a general vote, Mr. J. V. Downes being the Council's nominee. Mr. Kelly received 66 votes to Mr. Downes's 49.

Minister of Town and Country Planning to Address National Federation.

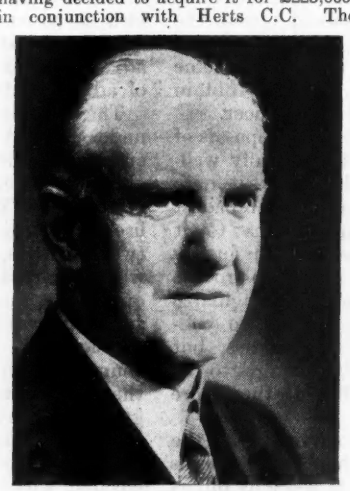
Mr. W. S. Morrison, M.P., Minister of Town and Country Planning, is to be the guest of honour of the Council of the National Federation of Building Trades Employers at a luncheon in the Savoy Hotel on Wednesday, December 1. Mr. Leslie Wallis, J.P., the President of the National Federation, will preside.

L.C.C. and Stepney.

The L.C.C. has under consideration a proposal to deal with an extensive area in Stepney and Poplar as a reconstruction area, and is to acquire and clear three sites totalling about 59 acres for the sum of £605,000. The Council is to proceed by means of compulsory purchase orders.

"Green Belt" Acquisition, Aldenham.

The Wall Hall estate at Aldenham is to become part of London's "Green Belt," the London County Council having decided to acquire it for £223,000, in conjunction with Herts C.C. The estate was in the property of the late Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan. A proposal has been made that the house and gardens shall be used as an educational training college.



LORD WOOLTON,
Whose appointment as First Minister of Reconstruction is referred to in a Note on this page.

L.M.B.A. President to Visit Scotland.

Mr. H. C. Harland, F.I.O.B., President of the London Master Builders' Association, has accepted invitations from the Rotary Clubs of Glasgow and Edinburgh to be their guest of honour at luncheons early next January.

General Smuts and Municipal Engineers.

Field Marshal Jan Smuts, Prime Minister of South Africa, has been elected an Honorary Member of the Institution of Municipal and County Engineers. The Institution has a flourishing branch in South Africa, with its own vice-president, district chairman and honorary district secretary, and members are to be found in all the important cities of the Union.

Smoke Abatement Appointments.

At the general meeting of the National Smoke Abatement Society held in London on November 5, Mr. Will Melland was elected President in succession to the late Dr. H. A. des Voeux. Mr. Melland, formerly an alderman of the Manchester City Council, has been closely associated with the smoke-abatement movement for nearly thirty years, and was Chairman and Hon. Treasurer of the former Smoke Abatement League of Great Britain, and Hon. Treasurer of the present society up to now. Sir Lawrence Chubb was elected Hon. Treasurer in place of Mr. Melland.

An Appointment.

At an inclusive fee of 800 guineas Mr. Max Lock, A.R.I.B.A., of Hull, has been appointed by the Middlesbrough Corporation Joint Reconstruction Committee as town planning consultant to prepare a comprehensive report and survey for the replanning of the town.

From *The Builder* of 1843

Saturday, November 18, 1843. *Price* 3*d.*

Worthing New Church. — Cheap churches, where the *job* has been to filch all out of the builder, or dear churches, where the *job* has been on the opposite tack, with a builder on the committee, are all we hear of—and these latter as one to one hundred of the former—only now and then do we hear of a church *ending* to the satisfaction of all parties concerned. There is something rotten in the system, not as regards the church, for workhouse and almost all public contracts reveal the same; but the general standard of morality is, we fear, on a low scale. Cunning gentlemen . . . who have a *knack* in these things, with the reputation of being very *hawk-eyed*, which in other words means very suspicious, are thrust forward, or thrust themselves forward, to show their skill in cutting and paring down before the contract is made, reducing the builder's estimate to the lowest possible straining of his credulity and confidence, and afterwards enforcing and watching to the turn of a screw or the driving of a nail.

*** These remarks arose out of a bankruptcy case in which the proceedings before the Commissioner in Bankruptcy bear out *The Builder's* slashing attack. Hansom, who was then probably still Editor, had himself suffered over Birmingham Town Hall, where he had been joined with the contractor in bankruptcy proceedings, and the subsequent editorial remark, "When shall we attain to that time when *measure and value* will determine the just due of the workman, and when will the choice depend upon his known trustworthiness and skill rather than upon his sharpness or keenness in striking a bargain?" propounds a question which the building world has not yet fully answered.

PLANNING WORK DURING THE WAR PERIOD

MINISTRY MEMORANDUM.

We take the following extracts from a Memorandum just issued by the Ministry of Town and Country Planning to Local Authorities and Joint Town and Country Planning Committees (England and Wales) :—

Before detailed planning proposals can be prepared on a well-considered basis, planning authorities will need to be adequately informed of the factors affecting the future of their district. At present, however, shortage of staff is likely to prevent the assembly of full information. A less comprehensive survey may therefore have to suffice.

The information necessary to enable outline planning proposals to be prepared will vary according to the locality, and on this point the advice of the Regional Planning Officer may advantageously be sought. Much information will already be in the authority's possession about such matters as the location and capacity of public services, including water, electricity, gas and sewerage, and the availability of public transport. Further, a variety of information useful for planning purposes may often be obtained from outside sources, including voluntary research bodies, Chambers of Commerce and amenity societies. The co-operation of such bodies will be helpful in compiling the information necessary for the survey.

The next step is to prepare a preliminary outline plan as a general guide to the future development and conservation of the area. On the basis of the survey it should be possible to make a broad division between those areas where considerable development is likely and appropriate and those in which it is unlikely or undesirable. In the former case it will be necessary to work out planning proposals in some detail, whereas in the latter, planning proposals can be temporarily left in the broadest outline only.

Areas where general building development is both likely and appropriate should naturally be given first attention. In certain localities future development may be directed to the creation of entirely new settlements; but with possibly a few exceptions, such self-contained forms of development are unlikely to begin within the immediate post-war period.

In certain areas war-time developments have introduced new conditions; for example, factories have been built which from the planning point of view may be considered suitable for retention after the war. It will be appreciated that the question of the continued use of these war-time buildings is dependent on many factors and must in many cases necessarily be a matter of uncertainty at the present time. Planning authorities should, however, consider the effect on the planning of their district which would result from the retention of any war-time building developments which may appear suitable for the purpose, and in forming their views should consult the Regional Planning Officer.

Buildings: Control of Design.

The Minister attaches great importance to the control of the external appearance of buildings, whether in rural or in urban area. Architectural design, if it is to be successful, should be simple and appropriate, and will certainly be no more costly to the developer than a design which is pretentious or over-ornamented.

In addition to the design of buildings themselves, whether singly or in groups, attention should be given to their relation to their surroundings, to siting, contours, and existing buildings and structures. Planning authorities should exercise firm control in these matters, and should avail themselves of expert architectural advice, whether of a private architect, an official, or an advisory panel. Where the local authority is itself undertaking housing or other building development, a competent architect should always be employed, and the proposals discussed in their early stages with the Regional Architect of the Ministry of Health and the Regional Planning Officer.

Roads.

In both rural and urban areas the outline plan should include any projected roads of major importance, and the planning authority should keep in touch with the engineer of the highway authority and the Divisional Road Engineer of the Ministry of War Transport. Permission should not be given for development which would encroach upon land required for future roads or road widenings. Whilst for planning purposes town and country must be considered together and in mutual relation, nevertheless in preparing outline proposals, the main distinction in treatment, broadly speaking, will be between country areas and town areas. It will be convenient here to consider the action to be taken in each case.

Although it will often be appropriate to include whole villages in a rural zone, there will be other villages where it would not be reasonable to exclude all buildings solely on the ground that they were not in some way connected with agriculture. Facilities may exist which will permit of a reasonable expansion without detriment to the general character of the village, or interference with its primary function as an agricultural settlement. In some villages, again, particularly near large towns, expansion will have already begun, and an extension may be permissible if so controlled as to ensure that the expanded village remains a separate unit. The area allotted for the extension should normally be small, and should be carefully selected so as to add naturally to the existing composition of the village, whilst avoiding conflict with agricultural requirements.

Coastal Areas.

Special attention should be directed to coastal areas. Hitherto, stretches of the coastline, possessed of great natural beauty, have been unnecessarily spoiled by uncontrolled building, which in many cases has spread along the coast in a form of ribbon development. If building is to be permitted at all, provision should be made in the outline plan for grouping it where it can be fitted happily into the landscape and where proper facilities can be provided. The coastal survey, begun in December, 1942, by the Minister's Regional Planning Officers in collaboration with local planning officers, is now well advanced, and will help to indicate those parts of the coastline where development should be prevented altogether and those parts where it may be permitted, subject to proper control.

The preliminary survey of the area will show the broad divisions between areas already developed for industry, business and housing respectively. One of the first things is to decide in which areas no change in the immediate future is likely or necessary. The survey will indicate the areas where existing development is reasonably satisfactory, and where further development of a similar character may safely be permitted. In those areas no immediate planning problem will normally arise; but there will be exceptions, as where a new street or widening is needed and where any application for development must be dealt with accordingly. There will be other areas in which, owing to the lack of planning control in the past, existing development is bad in itself or detrimental to neighbouring development; for example, where there is an unregulated mixture of factories and houses. In formulating outline proposals for the control of interim development, due regard should be paid to the possibility of improvement. For the purposes now being considered, and until more detailed planning becomes possible, it will normally be sufficient to draw up outline proposals under five main headings : (1) Communications, (2) Residential areas, (3) Shopping and Business, (4) Industry, (5) Open Spaces.

Shops should be in compact groups and should not be permitted to straggle along main roads used by through traffic. Through traffic and the local and pedestrian traffic attracted to a shopping area are incompatible and should be separated. In all main shopping centres some provision will be required for standing traffic and for the loading and unloading of vehicles, and in considering applications for development of shopping sites the local authority should bear this in mind.

Among the factors to be considered in selecting sites for industry are road and rail facilities and in some cases waterways, the availability of public services, and the location of the site in relation to residential areas. Much will depend on the type of industry to be provided for. Those industries which by their nature are dirty, noisy or otherwise objectionable should be so sited that the prevailing wind carries smoke fumes and dust away from residential areas which, wherever possible, should be separated by a buffer of open space from the industrial area. Land which has been excavated, covered with spoil heaps, or in some other way rendered unfit for building, may be suitable for ultimate use for industrial purposes, but useless for development until preparatory work has been done on the site. The planning authority should therefore be satisfied that an adequate proportion of the land zoned for industry is physically suitable for immediate use.

Public Open Spaces.

The desirable reservation for public open spaces suggested by the National Playing Fields Association is five acres per thousand population. This is allocated as four acres of permanently dedicated playing fields and one acre of permanently dedicated parks and gardens. In addition, it is suggested that there should be a further reservation of two acres of private playing fields per thousand population, giving a total of seven acres per thousand for public and organised (*e.g.*, club) recreation. This figure does not include school playing fields which on modern standards would amount approximately to a further three acres. Garden allotments constitute another type of open space for which provision will at some time have to be made in most areas, and care should be taken to select land conveniently sited and of reasonable agricultural quality.

*** The Memorandum from which the above extracts are taken is referred to in this week's leading article. The cross headings are our own insertions.—Editor.

THE ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION

DEVELOPMENTS IN AMERICAN SMALL HOUSE CONSTRUCTION.

An interesting lecture illustrated by drawings and lantern slides was given on Tuesday, November 9, before the Architectural Association at 36, Bedford-square, W.C.1, by an American architect, Mr. Marc Peter, Jun., M.Arch., A.I.A., his subject being "Developments in American Small House Construction." The President of the Association, Mr. A. F. B. Anderson, was in the chair.

The lecturer said that ever since Colonial days there had been in his country a very genuine and indigenous tradition not only in style but also in plan and technique. The most interesting aspect of that tradition was that it was very much akin to the modern approach towards fulfilling essential domestic needs. As a machine to live in, the Cape Cod house was almost as efficient as the best example of modern architecture. American domestic architecture had developed in a different tradition from European, and there were four influences without which that development could not be understood. The first of these was natural. Climatic conditions in those parts of the United States which had been first settled, and which were still the most populous, were extreme—very cold in winter, very hot in summer and changing very rapidly. Temperature might change 50 deg. from one day to the next. The frame house had been developed as the best to meet these changeable weather conditions, but climate had also affected plumbing, heating and the placing of the heating element.

The lecturer illustrated the second great influence on American architecture by drawing on a blackboard. This influence was technical, it was the development of the frame technique. This method of construction was, he said, the explanation of why in modern development America had gone so much to steel and so little to reinforced concrete.

The third great influence, economic, was the scarcity of building labour, favouring the use of machines; while the fourth, social, was the lack of domestic help, leading to an efficient type of planning. Even in the eighteenth century the tendency in the American house was to make kitchen and dining-room contiguous rather than have them separated by a hall as here. The traditional American house was a square box with a heating element in the middle, while weather conditions enforced an efficient type of building, with windows fitting closely and central heating. Against this background there had developed some unmistakable trends, showing how the United States would transfer the modern movement into something American, not European. Tradition was not only a matter of style but was very much bound up with the social habits of people and their acceptance of the built-up symbols which architecture conveyed to their minds —*e.g.*, a spire symbolising a church. If there was no large gap between what the traditional technique produced and the comfort it gave, such a change as was being wrought by the modern creed must depend for its acceptance on the development of an easily recognisable vernacular understandable by all. Up to the beginning of this war the modern vernacular had been rejected by the mass of people in America in spite of technical and planning advantages. During the last twenty years there had been a substantial development in suburban areas. Private enterprise had put up houses to sell, and by and lafge these houses were soundly built. Private enterprise had not, however, imposed a style: it had followed the popular taste, and this had run to a rather mean copy of period designs. But private enterprise was responsible for a good deal of American technique: one of its considerable contributions was the standardisation of utilities and a great advance in machines resulting in a remarkable productivity of labour. It was also responsible for prefabrication. This was much misunderstood. "Chicago prefabricator" was an expression used in a deprecatory manner, but the Chicago prefabricator was an extremely capable builder. Competitive conditions had had another result. They had taken out of the architect's hands not only the small cheap house, but had invaded the field of the ten, fifteen, even twenty or thirty thousand dollar house, and had forced the profession to be very much "cost minded" and efficient. The architect had been brought very much closer to the industry, and the industry was now beginning to realise the real value of his services. The import of architectural design into fabrication was noticeable: the best models were from the boards of technically competent architects.

The lecturer followed with lantern slides showing various types of modern American small houses.

Summarising, he said the trend of developments were: (1) the use of native material; (2) the development of indigenous style through the expression of technical form rather than stylistic forms; (3) further developments of the frame system of construction, and this not necessarily in wood—steel was used; (4) the multi-family building was becoming the unit rather than the individual house; and (5) the reduction in cost through technical efficiency.

From the A.A. Exhibition.

"No. 7, Ash Grove, Exeter." From a Drawing by Julian Leathart, F.R.I.B.A.

DISCUSSION.

Mr. Grey Wornum, proposing a vote of thanks, said it might have been expected that when Mr. Peter was drawing the plan of a traditional American house he would have referred to the cellar or basement, in which the heating element was installed and the laundry was provided. In America there was not the same laundry service as here, and this fact must affect the planning of the house. The cost of American houses was far more than we should find available in this country. As Mr. Peter had pointed out, Americans were fighting against an imposed style just as we were here; but as the vernacular type of house in America had such excellent points in its modern arrangement, to make the modern expression of construction acceptable would be more difficult there than here, where it introduced several amenities in the way of planning and equipment.

Mr. Arthur Kenyon, seconding the resolution, said that the houses shown on the screen were usually of bungalow type, but in the planning we had something to learn. Our small house was usually overplanned—it had been cut down from the big house with its passages, halls and staircases; and we felt that we wanted every room separate. Looking at the drawings and slides shown it could be seen that the American house was coming back to our own very early type

of house, with the entrance from outside directly into the living-room and the staircase going out of the living-room. We should not have accepted that in this country before the war. In America there had been a difficulty in getting domestic help; we might get the same difficulty here and have to go back to simplification in plans. Most of the houses shown had been in timber; here we had a tradition in brickwork which it would be hard to break down. Prefabrication and standardisation must both play a part in reconstruction; our present method was a very cumbersome one for building quickly. Shortage of labour had made the Americans get down to machinery, and we should have to explore that side so that we could make the fullest use of our labour.

MR. JOHN MARKHAM asked if it was considered in America that a timber-built house with boarding outside was as durable as masonry construction. In this country the boarding would rot, especially at the bottom end, and renewal would be necessary after a few years. Hence the maintenance cost would be higher than with masonry walls. We might learn a good deal from American planning, but what dictated the type of plan more than anything was the way the heat services were rendered. With central heating the architect was set free very considerably in the type of plan he could adopt, and we could not copy the American plan without radically altering our system of heating.

MISS JESSICA ALBERY asked if in America steel could be made an economic proposition, or was it being used merely because economy in timber had become necessary.

Replying to the discussion, MR. PETER said it was a fact that as a rule the American house had a laundry in the basement, but in the latest Government housing schemes a new element had been introduced called the utility room. In this room was the bath heater with a very short run of pipe to the bath and washing machine. Durability and maintenance of the wooden house was a matter of painting. Brick exteriors were used in America because they need not be painted, but if the house was painted he did not think wood was less durable. The method of construction had to be considered in connection with the flexibility of the house. When every year the ground was frozen solid four feet deep, the house was subjected to a considerable amount of push and pull, and a brick-built house would not stand the strain so well as a fully framed house, whether in wood or steel. The durability of the wooden house was very much in the function of the frame, and the speculative brick house was usually a framed house with boarding and four inches of brick—to all intents and purposes it was a wooden-framed house with a skin of brick. But the builder did not flash the junction of wood and brick properly, so that you had more trouble with brick than with the standard wooden section. The low-pitched roof was usually covered with a two-, three- or four-ply guaranteed for a specified number of years. Most American cities were built with such roofs. Central heating was not very difficult. The cost of the heating apparatus had been brought down, so that now for sixty dollars you could have an installation that took care of hot-water supply and central heating. As regards the use of steel, things were in the experimental stage. The United States Army was using wood for housing. The Navy used steel, and this had proved fully as cheap as wood.

CORRESPONDENCE

"Pay-As-You-Earn" Income Tax.

TO THE EDITOR OF *The Builder*.

SIR,—I have read Mr. Harland's article in *The Builder* for November 5, and quite agree that the Government system for deduction will be very difficult to work. I think a simpler method for wages clerks would be one based on the following calculations, showing the amounts that could be paid weekly without any tax deductions :—

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Single man or widower	1 13 4	
Less one-tenth ...	0 3 4	
		1 10 0
Less one-fifty-second of £80 personal relief		1 10 0
Married man	3 0 0	
Less one-tenth ...	0 6 0	
		2 14 0
Less one-fifty-second of £140 personal relief		2 14 0

As the allowance for housekeeper or child is £50 per year this could be treated as £1 per week for each.

Every man, presumably, would have a record card with a code letter on it, and this letter could easily be put by the wages clerk on the pay sheet. The clerk could then fairly easily work out the increase above the maximum tax-free amount at 6s. 6d., less 10 per cent., say, 6s. in the £1, taking the wages to the nearest 10s.—*e.g.*: If the wages of a married man with one child were £4 11s. 6d., the tax deduction would be 10s. at 6s., viz., 3s.

It would not take a wages clerk very long to memorise the code maximum free tax. Further, the entering up of the wages and income-tax deduction on record cards could be done in the week following the payment of the wages.

There is hardly any extra trouble in keeping a record of a man's wages and tax deductions, as we now have to keep a record of their wages so as to give a total to the Inspector of Taxes and a record of weekly tax deductions so as to give a total to the Collector of Taxes.

List of maximum tax-free amounts.

Code.		£ s. d.
S	Single man or widower ...	1 13 4
S.1	Single man and housekeeper, or other dependant	2 13 4
S.2	Single man with two dependants	3 13 4
M.	Married man	3 0 0
M.1	Married man with one dependant	4 0 0
M.2	Married man with two dependants	5 0 0
M.3	Married man with three dependants	6 0 0

Presumably at the end of the fiscal year the Inspector of Taxes would adjust the tax, make a refund for any allowances and claim any tax on unearned income.

Periodically the wages clerk could refer to the tax tables and then advise the employee whether the tax for the ensuing week has to be increased or decreased, stating the reason. This system would make it easier for the wages clerk and save anomalies mentioned in Mr. Harland's article.

I am sending a copy of this letter to the London Master Builders' Association.

F. W. TESTER.

Westminster, S.W.1.

Labour in the Building Trade.

TO THE EDITOR OF *The Builder*.

SIR,—Referring to your correspondent's article on this subject published in your issue for October 29, another angle appears.

Due to fluctuations of work, it happens that some firms are too short of men to carry on; perhaps some even have none at all and cannot get them due to the fact that they have been absorbed by firms who have a "rush" of "urgent" Government work.

Seeing that it is admitted that the smaller firms are also important, I suggest that it is time a simple system be devised whereby even the smaller firms be entitled to the minimum number of men if they require them.

As an example: say, in a particular sub-contracting trade at the beginning of the war there were 5,000 men, but now there are only 2,500—say, also, that one firm was employing 600 men and the smallest, 6, to keep the balance each would, if it had enough work, now have 300 men and three men respectively, and with the overheads reduced, as they should be, perhaps both could carry on.

What is happening, however, is that the larger firms are scooping all the men while several small firms, who also have a connection to keep going, cannot get any men at all.

There must be a lot of wasted manpower effort through the "bosses" of these small firms kicking their heels wondering how long they can keep going, probably by the process of drawing out their "War Savings," etc.

Many of these medium and smaller firms have been built up by men who came back from the last war, and everyone knows that restarting in business at a late age is either difficult or impossible.

SMALL CONTRACTOR.

COMING EVENTS

Saturday, November 20.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ASSOCIATION. Conference at Cheltenham.

INSTITUTE OF REGISTERED ARCHITECTS. Mr. W. O. Hudson on "The Architects Registration Acts, 1931-38." 29, Lincoln's Inn-fields, W.C.2. 2.15 p.m.

Monday, November 22.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS. Mr. W. A. Robertson on "Forest Products—I. The New Outlook." Adelphi, W.C.2. 1.45 p.m. (preceded by sandwich lunch).

INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS. Discussion (opened by Mr. G. V. Harrap) on "Administrative Structure of Electricity Undertakings." Savoy-place, W.C. 5.30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 23.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS. Mr. B. D. Richards on "Post-War Transport in Great Britain." Great George-street, S.W. 5 p.m.

ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION. Mr. F. R. Yerbury on "A Visit to Sweden in War-time." 36, Bedford-square, W.C.2. 6 p.m.

Wednesday, November 24.

SANITARY INSPECTORS' ASSOCIATION. Conference. Speakers: Mr. Stewart Smith, Miss Megan Lloyd George and Mr. A. C. Bossom (on Post-War Housing). Central Hall, Westminster, S.W.1. 10 a.m. (conference continued on Thursday).

Thursday, November 25.

INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS. Dr. A. P. M. Fleming on "Life and Work of Nikola Tesla." Savoy-place, W.C.2. 3 p.m.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ASSOCIATION. Mr. Charles Gandy on "Town Planning and Clean Air." 1, Grosvenor-place, S.W.1. (Lunch at 12.45 p.m.)

Friday, November 26.

ASSOCIATION OF BUILDING TECHNICIANS. Final Lecture in "School of Building Technique." Mr. H. J. Spiwak on "Some Problems of Prefabrication." Alliance Hall, Palmer-street, S.W.1. 6.30 p.m.

Saturday, November 27.

INSTITUTE OF QUANTITY SURVEYORS. Mr. W. T. Creswell, K.C., on "The Quantity Surveyor: Building and Engineering Contracts." Caxton Hall, S.W.1. 2.30 p.m.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ASSOCIATION. Conference at Moreton-in-the-Marsh. Speaker: Dr. L. Dudley Stamp.

ROYAL SANITARY INSTITUTE. Conference and Discussion on "Houses of Future, with Special Reference to Housewife's Needs." Town Hall, Chesterfield. 10 a.m.

THE FINAL GROWTH OF TREE PLANTING COVERS THE UPPER CLAY EXCAVATIONS, AND CLOSES THE MOUTH OF THE LIMESTONE QUARRY. (PHOTOGRAPH OF A MODEL.)

LANDSCAPE PLAN FOR CEMENT WORKS, DERBYSHIRE

PREPARED BY MR. G. A. JELLICOE, P.I.L.A., F.R.I.B.A., M.T.P.I.

INDUSTRY, TOO OFTEN, OWES A DEBT TO LANDSCAPE. IT IS difficult to travel about the industrial areas of any country without finding evidence of this, and particularly is this true of a small country such as Great Britain, where there is in many parts a conflict between the utilisation of two wholly different resources. On the one hand there is an historic landscape, and on the other a highly productive industry, and both are of national value.

The scheme illustrated in these pages is interesting as being one of the first recorded cases where industry—at the instance of the C.P.R.E.—has voluntarily set about redressing the balance. It has been prepared for the Hope Valley, Derbyshire, establishment of Earle's Cement Works by Mr. G. A. Jellicoe, F.R.I.B.A., President of the Institute of Landscape Architects, and his recommendation—that a landscape plan, in association with the industrial plan, be prepared for development over a number of years—has been approved in principle by the company and is now in operation. Following are points from his report :—

The landscape consists of bare hills and between them a fertile valley. The beauty of the scene lies in the contrast of the two, the timelessness of the one and the vitality and changefulness of the other. It is essential to retain in mind these two associations of ideas. The works lie at the foot of the hills, the quarries above, and the exposed clay pits in the valley. The waste from the quarries has been used to form a platform on the hillside. The stone is carried down the slopes through a visible surface tunnel, but the clay is pumped underground through invisible pipes. The buildings themselves are well and compactly grouped, and, on the side towards the valley, lie beside green playing fields.

The conflict of ideas may be summarised as follows : (*a*) The quarries and the platform disturb the contours, denote change, and destroy the sense of loneliness; (*b*) the clay excavations have created a derelict area in the midst of fertility; and (*c*) the buildings themselves denote a manufacturing rather than an agricultural industry.

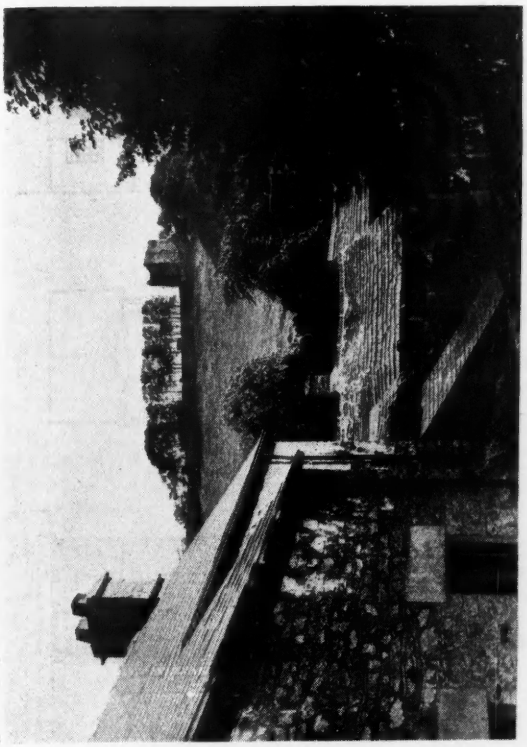
Amelioration appears to be as follows :—

(*a*) THE LIMESTONE QUARRY.—The purpose should be to give the illusion that the *form* of the hill is undisturbed. Examples of railway and canal cuttings suggest that, except when seen in direct line, the eye may be encouraged to pass over the deepest quarry. The mouth of the quarry, therefore, should be kept as small as possible, and the quarry itself worked fanwise from this. In regard to waste, the platform now breaks the contour of the hill, and the horizontal line should be here and there adjusted to the adjoining slopes. New waste can first fill the adjoining quarry and recreate the original hillside; topsoil should be provided and the whole grassed to match the existing hill. Subsequent waste can be disposed within the quarry itself.

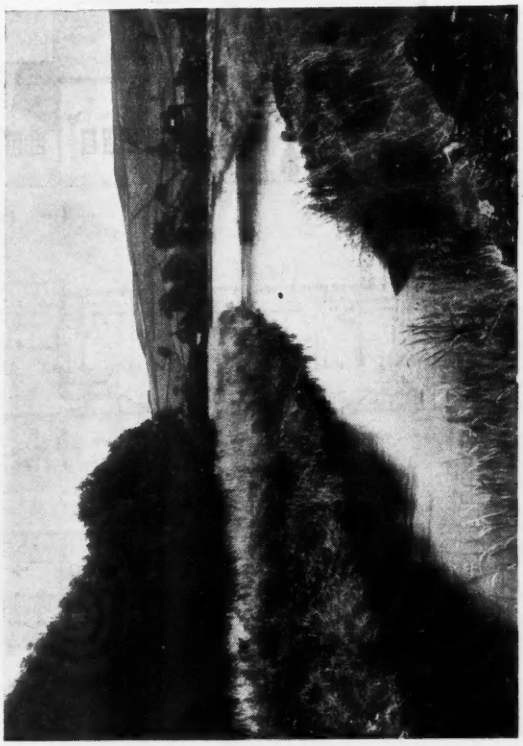
(*b*) THE CLAY EXCAVATIONS.—Because they have laid waste parts of a fertile valley, these excavations are deplorable. The first consideration is that they should be brought back to *use* to conform with their surroundings. A series of lakes with planted banks is suggestive of a landscape even more interesting than existed before. The classic example of this is the lakes created by the dams on the Tennessee River, which have turned the area adjoining the great production plants into a scene of boating and fishing. Where lakes are not possible, hardwoods should be planted to match those existing in the valley.

(*c*) THE BUILDINGS.—*Steam:* The psychological effect of steam is out of all proportion to its harmfulness, which is negligible. *Additional Buildings:* Care has already been taken over the siting and materials of housing. Any buildings likely to be dissociated from the main buildings should be placed with all regard to scenery. *Tree Planting:* On each side of the works trees should be planted, not only to conceal tips and unsightliness, but also secondary dust and smoke from shunting trains. Trees should also be planted behind the works in clumps almost to the quarry mouth. This is based on planting in adjoining valleys, and up to Peveril's Castle; the purpose is to suggest that the valley trees creep up the hillside to give human protection.

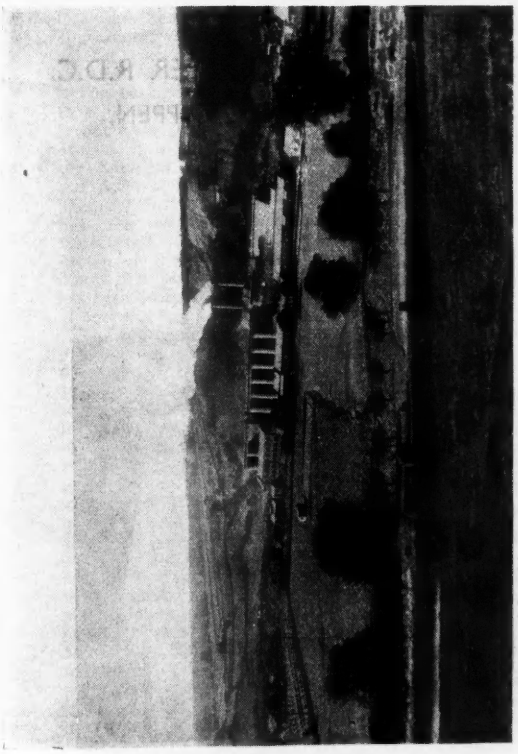
In a final report Mr. Jellicoe states : This Plan is in outline only, and the exact fulfilment, especially in regard to planting of all kinds, is left to local interest and initiative. Allowing for the growth of trees, the final shape will not materialise in the present century.



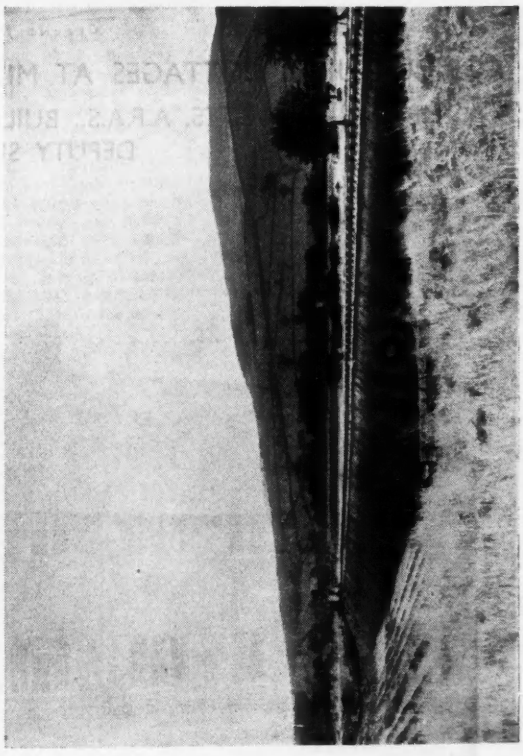
SOME LOCAL BUILDINGS. PEVERIL'S CASTLE, ABOVE CASTLETON, IS SEEN IN THE BACKGROUND. QUARRYING HAS BEEN CARRIED ON HERE SINCE ROMAN DAYS.



A CLAY QUARRY LEFT TO FILL NATURALLY WITH WATER.



VIEW OF WORKS FROM WEST, WITH QUARRY PLATFORM BEHIND. THE SLOPES OF THIS WILL BE MADE TO CONFORM WITH THE HILLSIDE, AND WILL BE GRASSED.

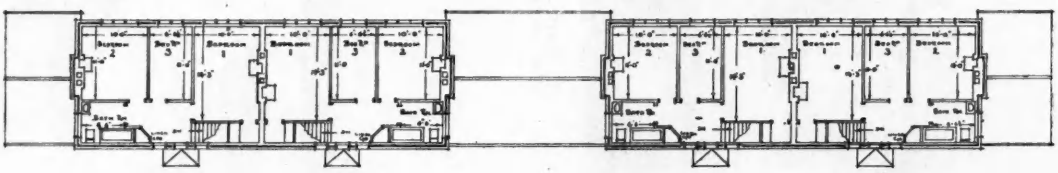


THE PROCESS OF EXCAVATION IN THE CLAY QUARRIES.

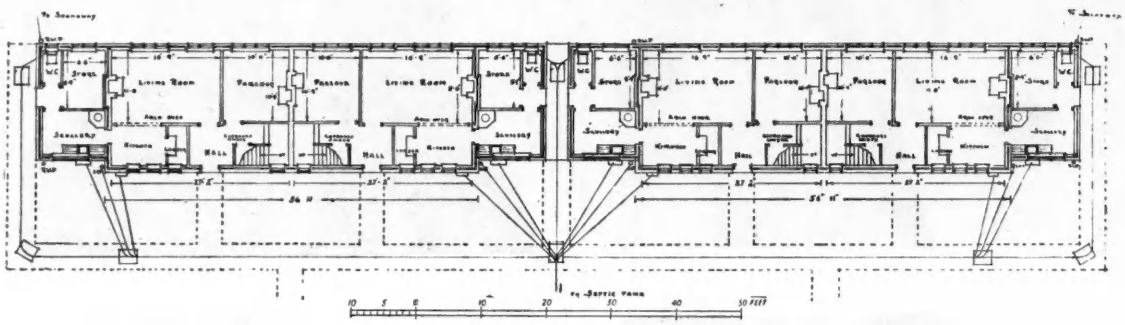
LANDSCAPE PLAN FOR CEMENT WORKS, DERBYSHIRE.

PREPARED BY MR. G. A. JELLICOE, P.I.L.A., F.R.I.B.A., M.T.P.I.

EAST ELEVATION



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

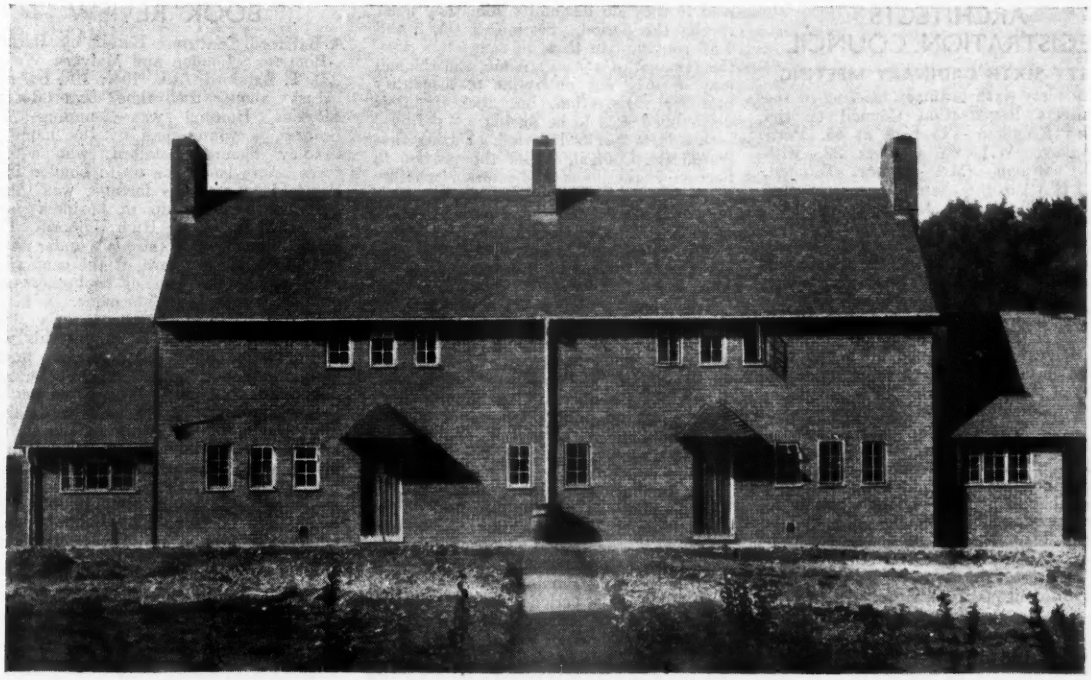


GROUND FLOOR PLAN

AGRICULTURAL COTTAGES AT MICHELDEVER FOR WINCHESTER R.D.C.

MR. A. J. R. WATTS, A.F.A.S., BUILDING SURVEYOR. MR. A. E. TUPPEN, DEPÚTY SURVEYOR.

BACK ELEVATIONS.



VIEW OF ENTRANCE FRONTS.

AGRICULTURAL COTTAGES FOR WINCHESTER R.D.C.

THESE COTTAGES, BUILT AS TWO PAIRS connected by a covered way, give a rather unusual and pleasant elevation. In them an endeavour has been made to lose the conventional council house appearance, and this has been done by careful selection of the facings and by the addition of certain special features.

The cottages—part of ten allocated to Winchester R.D.C.—are built to the layout plans suggested by the Ministry of Health and designed by the Building Surveyor, Mr. A. J. R. Watts, A.F.A.S., and his deputy, Mr. A. E. Tuppen, L.I.O.B. Every endeavour has been made to avoid producing a stereotyped effect, and by careful design of the elevations, and by the use of first-class selected materials this has been achieved with no small degree of success.

The accommodation consists, on the ground floor, of a living-room, 16 ft. 9 in. by 11 ft.; parlour, 11 ft. 6 in. by 10 ft.; and kitchen, 9 ft. by 6 ft., which forms an alcove adjoining the living-room. An ample larder is provided, and a built-in dresser in the kitchen. A scullery, 9 ft. 6 in. by 6 ft. 6 in., contains a deep white-glazed sink with hardwood draining boards and a brick-built copper for washing. Cooking is by means of an "Interoven" range built into the living- room, and this provides hot water to the bath. wash-basin and sink. An ample store is provided, built on to the house for taking such things as perambulators, cycles, etc., and an additional w.c. is also provided adjoining the rear entrance. The first-floor accommodation comprises two large bedrooms with open fireplaces, and one smaller bedroom suitable for a single bed. The large bedrooms have a built-in wardrobe cupboard of ample proportions. Bathroom contains panelled bath, white glazed washing basin and w.c. very compactly designed, and on the landing a built-in cupboard encloses the hot-water tank and provides an excellent airing cupboard. The ground floors are laid with a composition floor material on a specially prepared base, which will eliminate the coldness usually associated with concrete floors, while providing a surface easy to keep clean and polished. Timber floors are provided on the first floor. Externally, the walls are built with best quality sand-faced multi-coloured bricks with steel windows built into concrete surrounds, and the roof is covered with sand-faced clay tiles. The front door is constructed of oak to a pleasing design and with the tiled porch adds to the cottage effect. Drainage is by means of septic tank and filter bed with controlled filtration.

With the co-operation of the builders, Messrs. Leagar (Contractors). Ltd., of Winchester, and various local merchants, all materials were obtained locally, with the exception of the steel windows and internal doors, which were purchased from the Ministry of Works. It will be interesting to note that in spite of the criticism by the public in general of the slow progress of housing carried out by local authorities, these houses were completed within three months from date of commencement.

CONSTRUCTION DATA.

CONSTRUCTION.—11-in. hollow walls, faced externally with "Michelmarsh" hand-made sand-faced bricks.

Windows: Hope's steel windows, built in in concrete surrounds with mullions; quarry tile cills internally. *Ground Floors:* Composition floors on slag concrete to living-room, parlour and hall, quarry tiles to kitchen, and cement rendering to outhouse. *First Floor:* 7-in. × 2-in. joists, with 1-in. square-edged flooring. *Ceilings:* "Thistle" plasterboard and setting coat. *Walls:* "Sirapite" on hair mortar. *Roofs:* 4-in. × 1½-in. rafters, 3-in. × 2-in. ceiling joists, battens, and sand-faced "T.L.B." roofing tiles.

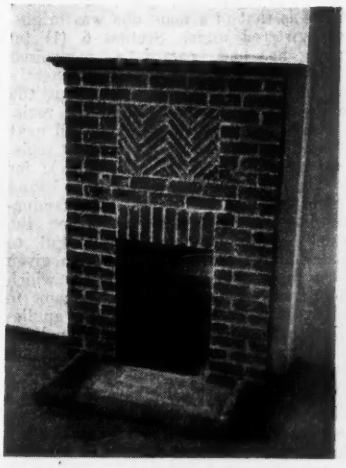
SPECIAL FEATURES.—*Front door:* Oak, stained and oiled, with one small glazed panel. *Range:* "Selfix Interoven," with boiler to supply hot water for bath, lavatory basin, and sink. *Fireplaces:* Constructed of 6-in. × 3-in. × 2-in. briquettes in parlour and two bedrooms. *Bathroom:* Rectangular bath fitted with glazed black panels, and tile splash against wall of tiles 7 in. high. Colour scheme, jade green and black. *Drainage:* Soil drainage is by means of septic tank and filter-bed with controlled filtration drain.

ACCOMMODATION.—Main building, 950 sq. ft. Outhouses, 150 sq. ft.

Ground Floor: Living-room, 240 ft. super; parlour, 110 ft. super; kitchen, 62 ft. super.

First Floor: Bedroom No. 1, 142 ft. super; bedroom No. 2, 110 ft. super; bedroom No. 3, 72 ft. super. Bathroom fitted with basin and w.c. Linen cupboard. Built-in wardrobe cupboard to bedroom 1.

OUTHOUSE.—Provision has been made for a store to house cycles, perambulators. Ground-floor w.c.



A FIREPLACE.

ARCHITECTS REGISTRATION COUNCIL

FORTY-SIXTH ORDINARY MEETING.

THE forty-sixth ordinary meeting of the Architects Registration Council of the United Kingdom was held at 66, Portland-place, W.1, on October 22, with the Chairman (Mr. Sydney Tatchell, F.R.I.B.A.) in the chair. It was reported that Mr. Frederick MacManus had been appointed by the Architectural Association in succession to Miss Jane Drew (resigned). The resignation of Mr. C. G. Soutar was reported. Col. B. C. G. Shore (representing I.A.A.S.) had also resigned, and Mr. J. Hemsted was appointed to succeed Mr. H. H. Murray (Faculty of Architects and Surveyors), resigned. The Council placed on record its great regret at the death of Mr. Chalton Bradshaw.

The following Counsel's opinion (that of Mr. A. T. Denning, K.C.) was reported to the Council. The subject of the opinion is Sub-section 7 (1) : Architects (Registration) Act, 1931, which deals with the removal of a name from the Register for criminal offence or professional conduct.

OPINION.—When the Council cause the name of any person to be removed from the register in pursuance of Section 7 they may also disqualify him for registration, but they are not bound to do so. If they do disqualify him for registration they must specify the period for which he is disqualified.

But if they do not disqualify him for registration he is entitled to apply at any time for registration and, if he can satisfy the requirements of Section 6 (1) (a), (c) or (d), he is entitled to be registered. The fact that his name has been previously removed from the register (whether under Section 3 (3) (a) at his own request, or under Section 11 for failure to notify change of address, or under Section 7 for a criminal offence or disgraceful conduct) does not of itself disqualify him for registration. Suppose, for instance, a man who was really a builder was registered in 1931 under Section 6 (1) (b) on representations that he was practising as an architect, and in 1943 the Council caused his name to be removed under Section 7 for disgraceful conduct, but did not disqualify him for registration. In that case there would be nothing to prevent him thereafter passing a recognised examination and becoming entitled under Section 6 (1) (c) to be registered again. If he did so, the Council would be bound to register him, for Section 6 is imperative and gives them no discretion to refuse him. An even stronger instance is that of a man who was originally registered under Section 6 (1) (c) because he had passed a recognised examination. If his name is subsequently removed for disgraceful conduct, but the Council do not disqualify him for registration, he can come to the Council next day and demand as of right to be registered again under Section 6 (1) (c); for the Admission Committee would be bound to report that he had passed the examination, however long ago, and then the Council would have no option but to register him again. The discretion given by the proviso to Section 7 (1) (by which the Council may restore a man's name to the register or refuse it) only applies during such period as a man is disqualified for registration, whereas, in the instance given, although the man's name was removed, he was not disqualified.

Having regard to these considerations, I expect that in most cases under Section 7 the Council will determine not only to cause the man's name to be removed, but also to disqualify him for registration. And if they do disqualify him they must specify the period. Sections 7 (1), 8 and 9 all contemplate that, in connection with the removal of a man's name, the Council may or may not determine to disqualify him for registration, but that if he is disqualified it is to be during a "period"—that is, a specified period. During that period the Council, under the proviso to Section 7 (1), have a discretion whether to restore the man's name to the register : but, as soon as the specified period expires, the man, if he brings himself within Section 6, is entitled to be re-registered, and the Council have no discretion to refuse him.

The view is expressed in my Instructions that by reason of the proviso there is very little point in specifying a period and that no injustice is done by not specifying it. I do not share that view. I think it is only fair to the man that, after a certain period, he should be able to demand, as of right, to be re-registered and not be dependent on the discretion of the Council.

My conclusion is that a period of disqualification should be specified. The Council should in each case carefully consider what the period of disqualification should be, having regard to the gravity of the offence, and should be careful not to impose excessive periods lest their conduct be criticised on appeal and the periods reduced by the High Court.

MR. MOBERLY proposed that the opinion be referred to the Professional Purposes Committee, and this was agreed to after CAPT. JACKSON had pointed out that, as he understood the position, an "unattached" architect, whether disqualified or not, could not claim as a right to be readmitted. MR. MOBERLY agreed to put that point to the Committee.

Following are points from Committee reports :—

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES.—The Council considered a proposal that the annual retention fee payable by architects on the Register be increased, in view of the general increase of expenses in the war period and the heavy cost of the Appeal Tribunal appointed under the 1938 Act to hear appeals from persons whose applications for admission to the Register are rejected by the Council. It was proposed that the fee be increased to 15s., but an amendment that the fee be increased to £1 was carried by 17 votes to 16, the increase to date from January 1, 1945.

ADMISSION.—The names of the following persons who have successfully appealed against refusal to admit to the Register have been placed on the Register : A. F. Westmore (London), T. P. Jordan (Shepton Mallet), and A. S. Cripps (Oxford). Since the last meeting of the Council ten appeals have been dismissed. Fifty-four applicants had been admitted to the Register and 86 rejected. Of the 5,195 applicants under the 1938 Act and under Regulation 26 (2) (5), (6) and (7), a balance of 891 remains to be dealt with.

On the motion of MR. BAXTER, the case of Mr. L. J. A. Stow, of Carlisle, was remitted back to the Admission Committee on the grounds that the candidate's reference, offered by him as part of his evidence in support of an application for admission to the Register, had not been considered by the Committee. This was resolved.

Prices of Building Materials.

Wholesale prices of building materials in October (states the "Board of Trade Journal") stood at an index of 150.2, as compared with 100 in the year 1930 and 147.5 in October, 1942. The increase since the outbreak of war has been 44 per cent.

BOOK REVIEW

A Batsford Century. Edited by HECTOR BOLITHO. London and Malvern Wells : B. T. Batsford, Ltd. Price 10s. 6d. net.

Just about the time that Joseph Aloysius Hansom was founding *The Builder*, a young man by the name of Bradley Thomas Batsford, who a few years before had come up to London from Hertford to seek his fortune, was thinking about setting up in business as a bookseller at No. 30, High Holborn. This he did, in 1843, and the book under notice is an interesting record of the century of existence of the firm of booksellers and publishers that bears his name.

Young Batsford, in those early days, had to struggle hard to support his wife and growing family on the meagre profits of second-hand bookselling, but he was industrious and persistent. From general bookselling he began to specialise in technical books, concentrating in the end on architecture, building, archæology, ornament and the fine arts. He then began to publish books on his own account, with the help of his sons, who came into the business. This was the period during which the firm established itself as the leading architectural book publishers in this country. Gotch's "Architecture of the Renaissance in England," Birch's "London City Churches," Belcher and Macartney's "Later Renaissance Architecture," Anderson's "Architecture of Greece and Rome," Banister Fletcher's "History of Architecture," Garner and Stratton's "Domestic Architecture of England during the Tudor Period," and Richardson's "Monumental Classic Architecture" are a few of the many standard works issued during a period of some twenty years of intense publishing activity. In recent years the firm, while maintaining its old interests, has turned to the production of books of a more popular type—the British Heritage and Face of Britain Series—with marked success.

The book under notice is a well-written, lively and entertaining account of a family business that has known adversity as well as success. Mr. Hector Bolitho, besides writing much of the text, contrives to weld into a connected story the contributions of several other pens, notably those of Mr. Harry Batsford and Mr. Charles Fry, two of the company's present directors. The book, which is well illustrated and beautifully produced, is full of good reading and contains a fund of amusing stories and anecdotes. It has a special interest for architects, particularly those who can recall the halcyon days of the late 'nineties and the Edwardian period, and the personalities who then trod the architectural stage.

CHARTERED SURVEYORS' INSTITUTION

FOLLOWING is the list of prize-winners in the professional examinations, 1943 :—

Penfold Gold Medal and Driver Prize, M. M. A. D'Alton, Dublin.
Penfold Silver Medal and Robert Irwin Barr Prize, T. Carmichael, Paisley.
Wainwright, Institution and John Gilchrist Prizes, J. Foster, Lanarkshire.
Galsworthy and Crawter Prizes, R. A Earthrowl, Brockley.
Special Prize, P. P. Thomas, Swanage.
Quantities Prize, C. W. How, East Sheen.
Constructive and Working Drawings Prize, E. Russell, Anerley.
Hyman Marks Prize, D. C. Hannah, Hamilton.
Julian Rogers Prize, H. L. Park, Lanarkshire.

The following have been declared successful in the Special Town Planning Diploma Examination held last June :—

N. L. Lichman, Clapton, and J. McCloy, Liverpool.

CURRENT TRENDS IN BUILDING PLASTICS

LECTURE TO INSTITUTE OF QUANTITY SURVEYORS.

In a lecture delivered to the Institute of Quantity Surveyors (West of England Branch) in Bristol, MR. T. WARNETT KENNEDY, D.A., A.R.I.A.S., A.M.T.P.I., said that in recent months considerable time and money had been spent in "debunking" those technical persons who had led a credulous public to believe that anything was possible with plastics. Every statement on the subject was normally preceded by a solemn warning against any tendency to be over-optimistic. We were beginning to feel, however, that this debunking might prove just as damaging as the mood which it replaced. The artist's vision was ever in advance of technics—and rightly so. According to one's temperament, one drew inspiration and stimulus from new things or one might prefer to accept the profound statements of the pundits who had supposedly studied these things intimately.

Plyplastics.

The first draft report of the Plastics Committee of the Post-War Directorate of Building stated: "Load-bearing plastic members may be constructed of resin-bonded plywood. Consideration should be given to the use of waterproof glues in construction of timber roof trusses and the use of resin-bonded plywood in forms of stressed-skin construction." Behind that statement lay the following significant facts.

(1) Plywood became a new material with the advent of phenol and urea formaldehyde glues and cements.

(2) These plastic glues made plywood waterproof, stronger, more fireproof and resistant to rot.

(3) Thus plywood captured new markets; boat-building, aircraft, shuttering for concrete and external walling for building.

(4) The glue-line became stronger than the plies which it bonded.

(5) New moulding methods made possible shaping, double-curvature if necessary, or almost any form we might desire.

(6) These achievements could be credited to the use of the new plastic glues, hence the renaming of the material "plyplastics."

The result of those advances had been the development in building of stressed-skin principles of construction, the full implications of which still remained to be worked out.

"Eighty per cent. of the wood prefabrication industry in America," said the speaker, "use plyplastic construction on stressed-skin principles. In this country would-be prefabricators are handicapped by lack of designers who fully appreciate these facts; uncertainty on the structural behaviour of plyplastics; insufficient technical knowledge of moulding practice, absence of basic data for computing costs; and fear of a future timber shortage.

"The Plastics Committee report 'that plastics offer unlimited scope for the manufacture of fittings for buildings.' Arising out of the design of such fittings certain trends are now apparent. A minority of architects have elected to specialise in the re-design of equipment and the etceteras of building, thus becoming in effect industrial designers. They work as consultants to manufacturers, conducting basic researches for war and post-war markets. These men find it necessary to start from a study of the basic chemical composition and physical properties of old and new materials, through complex manufacturing processes and so to the stage of 'Brochures,' which was formerly the architect's starting-off point." To emphasise that point a table was shown, listing minor building components which were, could be, or would be designed sooner or later in plastics.

FUTURE APPLICATIONS OF PLASTICS TO FITTINGS AND BUILDING PARTS.

STRUCTURAL.	Plyplastic joists and flooring, stanchions and walling, rafters and sarking, angles, channels, etc.
WALLING.	Plyplastic stressed panels, laminated sheeting, lightweight concrete blocks with plastic emulsion binders, injection moulded polystyrene translucent tiles or bricks.
FLOORS.	Plyplastic stressed skin, coumarone-indene composition, polyvinyl chloride composition, terrazzo strips, synthetic screeds.
STAIRS.	Plyplastic stringers, risers and treads, synthetic non-slip composition finishes, extruded cellulose acetate nosing and handrails, luminous nosing.
FOUNDATIONS, ETC	Plyplastic shuttering, cresol-formaldehyde damp-proof course, expansion joints.
INSULATION.	Foamed lignin wallboards, vinyl or phenolic emulsion-bound wood-wool, phenolic-impregnated rot-proof felts and quilts, cellulose acetate-bound glass silk.
FINISHES.	Plastics sprays, lacquers, paints and stoving enamels, phenol and urea glazes.
DOORS.	Laminated paper panels, plastic insulation core, laminated veneers, urea fingerplates, phenolic laminated locks, cast phenol knobs, laminated phenolic kicking plates, plyplastic door frames, cellulose acetate glazed panels.
WINDOWS.	Impregnated felt moulded frames, extruded beads, thermoplastic astragals, methyl methacrylate glazing, plyplastic glazing bars.
PLUMBING AND BATHROOM EQUIPMENT.	Prefabricated plastic plumbing sets, phenolic extruded hot-water pipes, extruded polyvinyl chloride cold-water pipes, transparent pipes, moulded cisterns, moulded lavatory seats, plyplastic baths, phenol glazed, washhand basins, sinks, cellulose acetate ball-floats, cast phenol tap knobs.
LIGHTING. ELEC. SUPPLY.	Switchgear, laminated control panels and printing in urea, extruded polyvinyl chloride cable sheathing, urea moulded lamp shades and reflectors, etc.
HEATING.	Phenolic radiator cabinets, louvres and mantels, cast phenolic and urea controls, laminated ducts, laminated phenolic electrically-heated wall panels.
VENTILATION.	Moulded louvres and fans, vinyl fabric filters and screens, cast phenolic controls.
TRIMMING.	Extruded cellulose acetate butyrate, phenolic and polyvinyl chloride skirtings, picture, curtain and towel rails, architraves, beading, coves, cover-stripping and table edging.
DECORATION.	P.V.C. translucent shower curtains and embossed wall veneers, furniture and curtain fabrics of extruded vinylidene chloride fibres, methyl methacrylate moulded ornaments.
EQUIPMENT.	Plyplastic and laminated urea kitchen cabinets and tabletops, moulded phenolic sinks, refrigerator parts, moulded plate racks, laminated draining boards, etc.
MISCELLANEOUS.	Fixing devices, screws, draught excluders, extruded roller shutter laths, wall-ties, brackets, guide rails and picture frames.

"Hitherto" (said the speaker) "these items were devised by anonymous individuals and specified from catalogues by architects. Now, however, the industrial designer with a basic architectural training should be able to achieve a greater integration of details as, for instance, in a kitchen, instead of merely designing a shell and filling it with gadgets."

Plastics were finding their way into building unobtrusively, in, for instance, paints, lacquers and sprays, laminated sheeting, glues and bonding films, and coloured texture veneers. They might be used as binders for insulation wall-boards, for example, lignin, the natural plastic found in wood and plants, and used for this purpose in certain proprietary products. Another probability in the same category would be plastic-bound wood wool. Indeed, there was a likelihood that plastic emulsions might supersede heavy cement binders for particular applications.

Windows in Plastics.

"The experimental window-frame [shown] was produced by Building Plastics Research Corporation. Some explanation of the technical problems involved in this small item will serve to illustrate the typical difficulties normally encountered in designing plastic building components. Extruded phenolic profiles, although comparatively low in cost, are, nevertheless, brittle and unable to withstand impact and torsional stresses. This is characteristic of all thermosetting extrusions. They are dimensionally stable but limited in colour range. On these accounts they were consequently ruled out. Thermoplastic materials, such as cellulose acetate, cellulose acetate butyrate, polyvinyl chloride or acrylic resins are equally unsuitable on account of dimensional instability. The final choice was a thermosetting resin which is inexpensive but limited in colour range. The filler chosen to withstand mechanical shocks was a preformed impregnated felt, having much the same technical processing as the material chosen by Henry Ford for his plastic car body. The problem of the mitre at the corners was satisfactorily solved as was that of mould design. It only remains now to determine whether the weather resistance will be adequate enough to eliminate the necessity of maintenance and to bring costs within more reasonable competition with metal windows.

"This example serves to show how a successfully developed plastic component must be the resultant of knowledge of these materials and their processing, together with the experience of builders and architects.

Costs.

"At the present state of research on building plastics it would be useful if a few quantity surveyors would make it their job to investigate in detail the costs which obtain in the plastics industry. It is extremely difficult to obtain such information in a form which is readily intelligible to building technicians. One might generalise on costs by pointing out: (a) The raw materials, coal, wood, limestone, etc., are plentiful. Therefore no intrinsic reason exists to prevent a substantial lowering of costs in the future. (b) Present day costs are held at artificial levels in accordance with policies determined by the Plastics and Chemical Industries in this country and abroad. (c) A master plan for the future of these industries, taking into account the potential building market, would, if embarked upon, radically alter the situation. (d) In the prefabrication market only final cost matters, and it may be that within

an arbitrary scheme higher priced materials may be justified, whereas, direct comparison of single items would rule out plastics. (e) Finally, like previous innovations, plastics will probably enter the building industry in the first instance as luxury materials for shopfitting, exhibition display work, public buildings and after becoming stabilised in these fields, their use might spread to low-cost industrial housing.

"It is no longer a matter of opinion whether or not plastics will invade building," concluded the lecturer. "On their intrinsic merits they will inevitably do so. The time taken to accomplish these ends will depend upon many factors, but especially upon the technical integrity of research workers and the altruistic vigour of the post-war building industry."

At the meeting were present invited representatives of the Bristol Society of Architects, the I.A.A.S., the Association of Building Technicians, and the Merchant Venturers' Technical College. Mr. J. L. Jackson, P.A.S.I., A.I.Q.S., was in the chair.

"BACKGROUND MAKETH MAN"

TALK BY MR. CLOUGH WILLIAMS-ELLIS.

"SOME day, one hopes, there will be a committee to end committees, a meeting to end meetings, but meanwhile here we are, and I regret to announce the birth and vigorous activity of yet another 'body.'"

This was the opening of a lunch-time talk on "Background Maketh Man" to the Town and Country Planning Association by MR. CLOUGH WILLIAMS-ELLIS on November 11. Mr. H. M. Cleminson was in the chair.

"I am only an accessory after the fact," continued the speaker, "and in no way responsible for its intimidating baptismal name, 'The Committee for Education in Appreciation of Physical Environment.' It certainly has the merit of being exhaustively descriptive, but though it has now become a Council with numerous subcommittees—and despite all the uncivil things that Mr. A. P. Herbert has said about calling committees by their chairmen—Barlow, Scott, Uthwatt, Beveridge, and so on—I myself call ours 'The Cleminson Committee' to save time and paper and, may I add, to give honour where honour is due."

Their general aims might be sufficiently summarised by one paragraph from their manifesto, "The Future Citizen and his Surroundings," that ran thus :—

"We shall all be agreed that education is concerned with the training of personality; with the attempt to cultivate the art and the habit of right thinking; with showing that no man liveth unto himself, but must share life to the full with his fellows; with the endeavour to make of the pupil a good citizen—ideally of the world, but in any case a citizen of his own country. It is concerned, therefore, with preparing the pupil for life—the whole of life, not merely the making of a living. He should understand, as far as possible, the background against which his life is to be lived; he must be enabled to appreciate its beauties and the achievements of those who have produced them; he must be led, too, to detect ugliness and selfishness, and so there must be sown within him the seeds of sound judgment and informed criticism. He should be taught impatience with things unnecessarily drab or sordid, and should be infected with a desire to remove or improve them."

"We realise," continued the speaker, "that unless we can begin to exert a civilising influence in the nursery and the school we are beginning too late, and as chairman of the Toys and Publications Committee of the Council, I am particularly concerned to assure an adequate supply of acceptable books and models to illustrate, extend and generally subserve our educative propaganda. Already one architect of international repute is organising a toy industry on novel and enlightened lines, several elementary little books are being specially written for the Council by authorities of eminence, and a number of helpful suggestions has been sent along from various quarters.

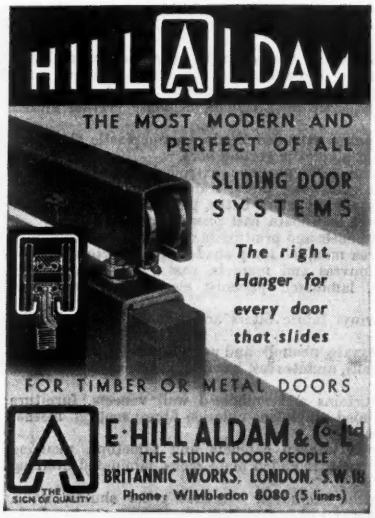
"Ours is, I hope, no patronising mission of Superior Persons, trying to impose our views and tastes upon the 'Common Man' or even his Common Children. Or is it? It is difficult altogether to escape the charge—which is an easy one to level at any reforming body. And indeed I am not sure that we are not sometimes unduly frightened, intimidated and inhibited by such accusations, which can be just as useful to the obstructionist reactionary as to those die-hard democrats who still chant *Vox populi, vox dei.*

"I remember Bernard Shaw once saying that if any picture were ever admired by as much as ten per cent. of the population, then it should most certainly be burnt. If that desperate saying has any truth in it—then surely it is our job to make it become untrue."

They were trying to educate the future consumer demand for decent design in the physical background and equipment of living—town and country planning, architecture, and all the things of daily use. They aimed at producing discriminating customers who would know and demand competent designing and no longer love the worst when they saw it. They wanted to create an appreciative and encouraging audience for the good artists and technicians, to assure rotten eggs and derisive boos for the bad.

With the Minister of Education's cordial support, they had already infiltrated into the State schools by way of lecture courses for the existing staffs, who, in turn, coloured and vivified their normal lessons in history, geography, English, art, or what not, from what might be called the "Amenity Vitamins" with which they had provided them.

"We, of course, further help them with lists of appropriate books, and we are actually promoting the writing and publication of several new ones for which there seemed a need. Professor Reilly has undertaken one of them. We envisage, naturally, an exhibition at no distant date, and the R.I.B.A., that has been most generously and effectively with us all the way, is arranging an Educational Conference in January which should greatly further enlighten us, and give us fresh targets."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TOWN PLANNING AND HEALTH

MR. FORSHAW'S CHADWICK TRUST LECTURE.

"TOWN Planning and Health" was the title of a lecture given under the Bossom Gift to the Chadwick Trustees on Thursday, November 11, at the Royal Sanitary Institute by MR. J. H. FORSHAW, M.C., M.A., F.R.I.B.A., M.T.P.I., Architect to the London County Council. The chair was taken by MR. FREDERICK R. HIORNS, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A.

The main aim of town planning, said MR. FORSHAW, is to secure the health and welfare of the people in their homes, at work and in their leisure. Medical advice and guidance are therefore essentially a part of planning, but it was not until recent years that health was recognised as vitally a town planning problem. Proper sanitary conditions, amenity and convenience are the threefold objectives of the Town Planning Acts of 1909 onwards. These three conditions—for the first of which "health" might appropriately have been substituted—can be expanded to cover all the requirements of living environment. Adequate planning seeks to balance all three, and thus to promote health and improved living. Regional schemes prepared after the last war by groups of local authorities aroused a public interest in planning from which the country has not yet benefited owing to the lack of adequate powers. Executive powers need strengthening to secure really effective action if the opportunity of the present time is to be grasped in the work of reconstruction.

Planning must be extended effectively into the national field if full account is to be taken of the wider aspects affecting the health of the people which are to be dealt with, such as land use, population, communications, power grids, agriculture, forestry, national parks, water catchment areas, industry and employment. With all these aspects questions of health are interwoven; many unsatisfactory conditions arising from particular industrial concentrations, of which mining is an example, could be removed as the result of planning on a national basis. The weakness of the single-industry districts has been disclosed in times of depression and the consequential decline in health and loss of morale. The very important experiments in the development of trading estates with alternative light industries have pointed the way to a planned solution, but a full appreciation of the success of such schemes in their maturity has been obscured by the war. In the world's largest regional planning scheme, that of the Tennessee Valley Authority, planning for health was the primary consideration, and major problems presented by mosquito and malaria had to be overcome by the doctors and scientists of the State departments before the project could be launched effectively.

The solution of the problem of replanning existing areas which need it is not confined to reduction of population or renewal of bad housing. In the worst

cases rebuilding with new houses and new factories equipped for living and for working under proper conditions of sanitation, of light and air, is the only solution. Removal of the causes of fatigue, due to long and difficult travel or constant exposure to the ill-effects of smoke, fumes and noise are long overdue. Education to-day is in advance of general living conditions of the home, with the result that some children grow up ill-contented and in search of release from dull and dismal surroundings. The coalfields present a particular example, where the great social welfare experiment administered by the Miners' Welfare Commission has brought inestimable benefits to the miner, to his family, and to the women especially. Washing and changing clothes at the mine have revolutionised the life of a mining community, have improved health, reduced fatigue and made lighter the work of the miner's wife in the home. So long as the majority of miners live in houses that are old, damp and without proper conveniences, however, the real value of this welfare work is greatly reduced.

Houses, however well planned and equipped, fail in their purpose where they are unsuitable of location or lack near-by workplaces, playgrounds, and shopping facilities, or are inadequately served by schools, churches and centres of corporate life. Instead of a full healthy life which the good dwelling connotes, an unreal existence in isolated and dreary surroundings leads, within the experience of medical officers and social workers, to serious health and mental effects, which point the need for the greatest care in planning post-war reconstruction schemes. An essential protection the community needs is against the danger and noise of through traffic—a protection to be secured by a precinctal arrangement of roads or the presence of open spaces and green wedges as buffers between built-up areas, by segregating industry, by planning or rearranging railway and bus stations, and by other ways.

Mind and body work together, the pace of life has quickened, and it is important to safeguard the physical condition against failure under strain of noise, travel fatigue and bad atmosphere. The planner can make a positive contribution to offset the strain imposed by modern life.

Elimination of Noise.

Elimination of noise is of first importance. The medical profession will doubtless agree that many illnesses, if they do not originate with noise, are aggravated by it. Many palliatives now practised are useful, but the problem must be tackled at its source. Traffic noises are unduly extended by drivers saving time in proceeding through side streets and by the erection of houses fronting on roads designed for fast traffic. Speed limits result, and the potential advantages of motor transport are nullified through lack of proper planning. Not only road traffic but railway traffic in urban areas is a source of noise which could be mitigated or removed by replacing viaducts by underground routes—at the same time freeing valuable land surface for other purposes.

Clear fresh air and sunlight are next in importance. Much improvement has resulted from the more extensive use of gas, electricity and smokeless fuel, but a great advance would result from gathering together the main sources of smoke—by regrouping factories into industrial estates and by the adoption of district heating. Electrification of railways and segregation of fast motor traffic will remove fumes and dust from residential areas. A more generous spacing of buildings, particularly flats, and a more open type of development for commercial buildings will allow the unpolluted air and sunlight to exert their beneficial effects.

The elimination of travel fatigue and expensive transport to work is the third great benefit which proper planning can bestow on citizens. Better health and production will be the reflection of the removal of noise and danger and the good planning of workplaces in a cleaner atmosphere.

Planning on a neighbourhood or community basis can be accompanied by the provision of additional parks and recreation space, not only to preserve and emphasise the identity of the communities, but to link up with green walks and wedges of parkland running parallel with a stream or river, or passing out of the urban area as a parkway to open country. Adjacent to recreation grounds an essential feature is the community centre, with provision for cooked meals, facilities for meetings and, in suitable cases, a local medical clinic. The location of the hospital in relation to open spaces and traffic is also important.

The solution of the problem of successful planning depends on a fuller appreciation by all responsible of the effects of physical and occupational environments on the health of the people. In the words of Octavia Hill, "We all want quiet; we all want beauty for the refreshment of our souls." To achieve this, the planner requires the help and advice of the doctor if he is to make a useful contribution to offset the fatigue arising from the noise, speed and general strain of modern life, the last of which can be eased by a return to simplicity.

OBITUARY

Andrew Balfour, F.R.I.B.A.

The death has occurred of Mr. Andrew Balfour, F.R.I.B.A., senior member of the firm of Andrew Balfour and Stewart, FF.R.I.B.A., Glasgow. Mr. Balfour was 80 years of age, and he was responsible for the designs of many well-known schools, churches, banks and mansion-houses in Glasgow. He was president of the Glasgow Institute of Architects in 1929-30. He was also a member of the Council of the R.I.B.A. from 1928 to 1931.

Stanley Philpot, F.R.I.B.A.

Mr. Stanley Philpot, whose death, at the age of 63, is reported, was a former chairman of the Tunbridge Wells chapter of the South Eastern Society of Architects. In his early professional life he was an assistant to Brinson, who was responsible for the naval hospital at Chatham. Mr. Philpot practised in Tunbridge Wells, at one time in partnership with the late Mr. Goulburn Lovell and he designed a good deal of commercial work, as well as King Charles's Parish Hall and several country houses. Latterly he had been serving with the War Damage Commission.

HOUSING EXPERIMENTS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

THE Minister of Home Affairs, Northern Ireland, has had requests from several individuals and firms to be given facilities for the erection of various types of houses, with a view to testing out under actual conditions new methods of construction likely to speed up or cheapen house-building after the war.

The Minister states that he considers experiments of this kind would be most useful, and, where it is specified that the proposed houses conform to certain minimum standards suggested by the Housing Committee of the Planning Advisory Board, and where he is also satisfied that the proposals do really involve new methods or materials which show reasonable promise of achieving good results cheaper or more quickly than those in ordinary houses, he is prepared to sanction them.

Owing to shortage of building materials, only a limited number of experimental houses is contemplated. The Ministry propose to allow no more than six pairs to be built. Firms or individuals are asked to submit plans and specifications to the Ministry of Home Affairs, whose technical officers will select the six most promising schemes for erection in consultation with the Housing Committee of the Planning Advisory Board.

Arrangements have been completed with the Belfast Corporation for a special site on which these experimental houses will be built.

An American Army Depot.

One of the first undertakings of its kind to be attempted by the War Office without the employment of consultants has recently been completed in the Midlands by the Royal Engineers, in conjunction with a local firm of contractors. The work, for a big depot to accommodate American troops, was completed five weeks inside schedule—nearly 200 store buildings, 14 miles of railways, a network of roads, and the whole area of 200 acres being completed ready for use in 10 weeks. Over 2,000 men were engaged, many of them coloured American soldiers, and nearly 700 drawings were made. Lt.-Col. W. J. Gregory, R.E., F.R.I.B.A., F.S.I., was in charge of the operation, which constitutes a remarkable example of co-ordinated effort.

IN PARLIAMENT

Local Planning Powers.

In the House of Lords LORD BALFOUR OF BURLEIGH called attention, in view of the danger of inflation of land values, and of delay in proceeding with the replanning and reconstruction of towns damaged by enemy action, to the recommendation of the Expert Committee on Compensation and Betterment, dated April 25, 1941, to the effect that the compensation ultimately payable in respect of public acquisition of land, or of the public control of land, should not exceed sums based on the standard of value at March 31, 1939; and to the acceptance on July 17, 1941, of that recommendation by Lord Reith, Minister of Works and Buildings, on behalf of the Government, and to the specific pledge of the introduction of legislation in due course by which that acceptance was accompanied: and moved :—That in the opinion of this House it is essential that his Majesty's Government should introduce at an early date legislation covering as a minimum (1) Power for local authorities to acquire compulsorily such areas as may be required for the purpose of essential replanning and reconstruction at prices related to pre-war values as recommended by the Uthwatt Report and as promised by the Government; (2) the prescribing of a simple and very speedy procedure on the lines suggested in the Uthwatt Report for the obtaining and exercise of such compulsory powers with right of entry in advance of settlement of claims to compensation.

He said that the legislation asked for was designed more particularly to help local authorities in the very difficult position in which they found themselves faced with the task of reconstruction. The motion did not cover the elaborate, and perhaps, controversial scheme of the Uthwatt Report in connection with the global acquisition of development rights. He hoped the Government would say that they stuck to the principle of the "1939 ceiling." The local authorities must be armed with greater powers than they now had, both to acquire land en bloc and to have a speedier procedure. The proposal that there should be power of entry in advance of settlement of compensation appeared rather drastic, but unless there were to be interminable delays something of the kind was necessary: without national planning no effective housing was possible.

The approach to the national planning of industry by way of the Special Areas was wrong. The only hope was to regard the development of industry from the national point of view, and to endeavour to promote the greatest efficiency from the top, and not in relation to the Special Areas. It should not be necessary to dictate to industry where it should go. A policy of barring the congested areas would lead, through time, to the results desired. He praised the County of London plan, subject to further reconsideration in regard to density. It was a waste of time for the L.C.C. to try to settle the future population of their area unless within the framework of national planning. In finance was the crux. National planning would mean the transfer of land values, and the local authorities would need financial help. His hope was that the Government would, in due course, decide on a large scheme of purchase with Exchequer funds. Some form of trusteeship might be devised to ensure really good estate management.

VISCOUNT RIDLEY said that it would be quite impossible for local authorities to plan and decide how many houses to build until they knew where the industries would be placed. The first thing was how and where the people would work. Then they should plan how and where they were going to live.

LORD LATHAM said that many methods would be considered by the L.C.C. in connection with the County of London plan. There was need for speedy Government action. There would be no real hope of building 100,000 homes in the first year after the war, as was contemplated by the Ministry of Health, unless planning and housing authorities were given now the powers that would enable them to prepare so that the moment the word "go" was uttered they could set the machine in motion. The amount of speculation that was going on in relation to land was scandalous.

VISCOUNT BLEDISLOE said that it was most essential to pass through Parliament a Bill for the purpose of preventing pure speculation in land wanted either for the farming community or which might, hereafter, be wanted for development purposes. Speculation was going on in land, particularly agricultural land, today on a considerable scale, and that ought to be checked as soon as possible.

VISCOUNT ASTOR said the country wanted, not promises, but performances. It was no good urging local authorities to go ahead and buy land unless they knew on what terms they could buy. The only effective pledge the Government could give was an Act upon the Statute Book.

LORD SNELL said that the Government had repeatedly and with emphasis assured Parliament and the nation that they had accepted the main principles of the Beveridge report, and the pledges they had given in connection with the recommendations of the Uthwatt Committee would be fulfilled. There would be no avoidable delay. It was for Parliament to see that the Government kept their pledges. All he could say about the Scott report was that the announcement respecting it would be available very early in the next session. In this matter no one problem could be taken in isolation from all the rest. The problem of finding means to secure that future development was not prejudiced by speculation and profiteering was not easy to solve. The Government, however, hoped to be in a position before long to make proposals which would meet certain difficulties. The Government had been reluctant to act before they knew where they could and ought to go. Everybody knew what was desirable; the Government could promise only what they decided was practicable. There existed at present a readiness and even an eagerness to accept dreams for facts, and those who put realities before ambitious desires and fancies were very seldom applauded. Those who set out on a journey in a fog not infrequently returned to the place from whence they started.

With regard to the powers of acquisition and procedure, the Government had accepted the recommendations of the Uthwatt Committee that the planning authority should be able to acquire the whole of any recent reconstruction area, that that should be developed as a whole, and that procedure should be simple and speedy. When once the Government knew precisely what they wanted to do it would be a simple matter to select special objectives, to include new aims and to let some old ones lapse. The Government recognised that powers to acquire land in reconstruction areas must be available before the end of the war. It was therefore a question of balancing this urgency against the desirability of linking it with the wider issues of the plan. The Government would keep careful watch on this matter, and if circumstances arose which would throw the balance in favour of immediate legislation that course would be taken. In regard to housing, action was not necessarily waiting on the powers referred to in the motion. Local authorities were reviewing their housing needs, concentrating on immediate work, and as soon as they were authorised to do so they were proceeding with the acquisition of sites. The new powers referred to in the motion would doubtless be of service to housing, but that service would be greatly increased if they formed part of a comprehensive system.

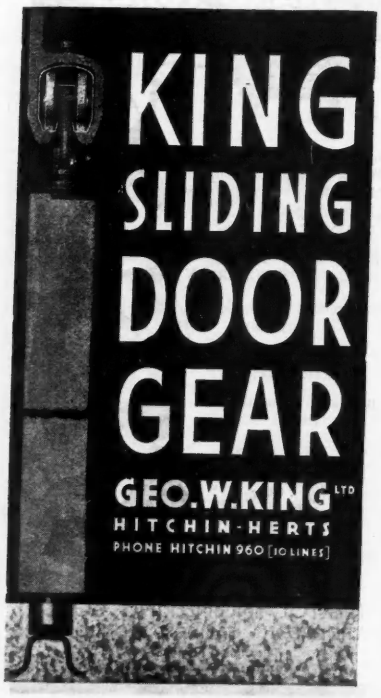
The Government accepted the principle of national planning without qualification. It was not practicable to give an unqualified "Yes" to the question whether the Government accepted the conclusions of the Barlow Report. Those conclusions were based on pre-war conditions, and had necessarily been greatly modified by changes due to the war. Steps had been taken to study the situation afresh. Industrial surveys had been put in hand, and information on social aspects collected. The Government desired that local plans should be made freely, and, in particular, would seek to secure that fresh development would be planned, with due regard to the use that could be made of existing capital, equipment and public services. The Government were in full sympathy with the desires of the Barlow Commission to secure better distribution of the industrial population, and their policy was to achieve this aim in the light of the new information being now assembled.

There were those who were impatient to advance beyond knowledge, and their enthusiasm prompted them to criticise those who had the responsibility of decision. But the Hebrews in their journey through the wilderness had deprived his noble friends of any claim to originality in that respect, "the whole congregation . . . murmured against Moses and Aaron." The Government were not asking his noble friends to wait 40 years, not even 40 months. They would accept, in principle, the motion which Lord Balfour had moved. The motion was agreed to.

The £100 Building Limit.

In the House of Commons, in reply to SIR GEORGE JEFFREYS, MR. HICKS said that in view of the shortage of labour and materials the Minister was not at present proposing to alter the procedure, now operating in respect of all types of property, under which private persons must apply for a licence where it was proposed to expend more than £100 in a period of 12 months. Moreover, if the limit were raised as suggested, it would, in many cases, enable a private owner to carry out non-essential

(*Continued on page 422*)



RATES OF WAGES IN THE BUILDING TRADE

AS AND FROM 2nd APRIL, 1943

(Every endeavour is made to ensure accuracy, but we cannot be responsible for errors)

	Crafts-men.	Lab-ourers.		Crafts-men.	Lab-ourers.		Crafts-men.	Lab-ourers.		Crafts-men.	Lab-ourers.
Aberavon	2/0	1/7	Cleveleys	2/0	1/7	Isle of Thanet	1/10	1/5½	Saxmundham	1/8½	1/4½
Aberdare	2/0	1/7	Clitheroe	2/0	1/7	Isle of Wight	1/9½	1/5	Scarborough	1/11½	1/6½
Abergavenny	2/0	1/7	Cobham (Surrey)	1/11	1/6½	Keighley	2/0	1/7	Scunthorpe	2/0	1/7
Abingdon	1/10½	1/5½	Colchester	1/11½	1/6½	Kenilworth	2/0	1/7	Selby	2/0	1/7
Accrington	2/0	1/7	Colwyn Bay	1/11	1/6½	Kettering M.B.	2/0	1/7	Sevenoaks	1/10½	1/5½
Aldeburgh	1/8½	1/4½	Congleton	1/11½	1/6½	Kidderminster M.B.	1/11½	1/6½	Sheerness	1/10	1/5½
Aldershot	1/10½	1/5½	Coventry C.B.	2/0	1/7	King's Lynn	1/10	1/5½	Sheffield	2/0	1/7
Alfreton U.D.	2/0	1/7	Cranbrook	1/10	1/5½	Kirkham	2/0	1/7	Shipley	2/0	1/7
Alnwick	1/11½	1/6½	Cranleigh	1/10	1/5½	Knowle	1/11½	1/6½	Shoeburyness	1/11½	1/6½
Altrincham	2/0	1/7	Crawley	1/10	1/5½	Lancaster	2/0	1/7	Shoreham	1/11	1/6½
Amble	1/11½	1/6½	Crewe	1/11½	1/6½	Leamington M.B.	2/0	1/7	Shrewsbury M.B.	1/11½	1/6½
Amersham	1/10½	1/5½	Cromer	1/9	1/4½	Leatherhead	1/11	1/6½	Sittingbourne	1/10	1/5½
Ammanford	2/0	1/7	Crowborough	1/10	1/5½	Leeds	2/0	1/7	Skegness U.D.	1/11	1/6½
Andover	1/10	1/5½	Cuckfield	1/10	1/5½	Leicester C.B.	2/0	1/7	Sleaford U.D.	1/10½	1/5½
Ardingly	1/10	1/5½	Darlington	2/0	1/7	Leighton Buzzard	1/9	1/4½	Slough	1/11	1/6½
Arundel	1/10	1/5½	Darwen	2/0	1/7	Letchworth	1/11	1/6½	Smethwick	†2/0	†1/7
Ascot	1/10	1/5½	Daventry M.B.	1/10½	1/5½	Lewes	1/10	1/5½	Southampton	1/11½	1/6½
Ashby-de-la-Zouch U.D.	2/0	1/7	Deal	1/10	1/5½	Lichfield M.B.	1/11	1/6½	Southend-on-Sea	1/11½	1/6½
Ashford (Kent)	1/10	1/5½	Denbigh Town	1/11	1/6½	Lincoln C.B.	2/0	1/7	Southport	2/0	1/7
Ashford (Middlesex)	2/0	1/7	Derby C.B.	2/0	1/7	Littlehampton	1/10	1/5½	South Shields	2/0	1/7
Ashington	1/11½	1/6½	Devizes	1/9	1/4½	*Liverpool	‡§2/1	¶	Spalding	1/10	1/5½
Ashtead	2/0	1/7	Dewsbury	2/0	1/7	Llandudno	1/11	1/6½	Stafford M.B.	1/11½	1/6½
Ashton-under-Lyne	2/0	1/7	Didcot	1/10	1/5½	Llanelly	2/0	1/7	Staines	1/11	1/6½
Aylesbury	1/10	1/5½	Diss	1/8½	1/4½	London—			Stamford M.B.	1/11	1/6½
Aylsham	1/9	1/4½	Doncaster	2/0	1/7	12m. radius	2/1½	1/8	Stevenage	1/11	1/6½
Bagshot	1/10	1/5½	Dorchester	1/9½	1/5	12-15m. radius	2/1	1/7½	Stockport	2/0	1/7
Banbury	1/10	1/5½	Dorking	1/10½	1/5½	Long Eaton U.D.	2/0	1/7	Stockton-on-Tees	2/0	1/7
Barnsley	2/0	1/7	Dover	1/10	1/5½	Longton	2/0	1/7	Stoke-on-Trent C.B.	2/0	1/7
Barnstaple	1/10	1/5½	Dovercourt	1/10	1/5½	Loughborough M.B.	2/0	1/7	Stourbridge M.B.	2/0	1/7
Barrow-in-Furness	2/0	1/7	Driffield	1/10½	1/5½	Louth M.B.	1/10½	1/5½	Stourport U.D.	1/11½	1/6½
Barry	2/0	1/7	Droitwich M.B.	1/11½	1/6½	Lowestoft	1/10	1/5½	Stowmarket	1/9	1/4½
Basingstoke	1/10	1/5½	Dudley M.B.	2/0	1/7	Luton	1/11½	1/6½	Stratford-on-Avon M.B.	1/11	1/6½
Bath	1/11½	1/6½	Dunstable	1/10½	1/5½	Macclesfield	1/11½	1/6½	Stroud	1/11	1/6½
Batley	2/0	1/7	Durham City	2/0	1/7	Maidenhead	1/11	1/6½	Sunderland	2/0	1/7
Beaconsfield	1/10½	1/5½	Eastbourne	1/11	1/6½	Maidstone	1/10½	1/5½	Sutton Coldfield M.B.	2/0	1/7
Beccles	1/8½	1/4½	E. Glam. (Mon. Val.)	2/0	1/7	Malvern U.D.	1/10½	1/5½	Swaffham	1/8½	1/4½
Bedford	1/11½	1/6½	East Grinstead	1/10	1/5½	Manchester	2/0	1/7	Swanage	1/10	1/5½
Berkhamsted	1/10	1/5½	Edenbridge	1/10	1/5½	Manningtree	1/9	1/4½	Swansea	2/0	1/7
Berwick	1/11½	1/6½	Ely	1/9	1/4½	Mansfield M.B.	2/0	1/7	Swindon	1/10½	1/5½
Beverley	2/0	1/7	Epping	2/0	1/7	March	1/9	1/4½	Tamworth M.B.	1/11½	1/6½
Bexhill	1/10½	1/5½	Exeter	1/11½	1/6½	Margate	1/10	1/5½	Taunton	1/10½	1/5½
Bideford	1/10	1/5½	Exmouth	1/10½	1/5½	Market Harborough	1/11	1/6½	Tenterden	1/10	1/5½
Biggleswade	1/10	1/5½	Fakenham	1/9	1/4½	Matlock U.D.	1/10½	1/5½	Thames Haven	2/0	1/7
Billericay	1/9½	1/5	Falmouth	1/10½	1/5½	Melton Constable	1/8½	1/4½	Thetford	1/9½	1/5
Birchington	1/10	1/5½	Fareham	1/11	1/6½	Melton Mowbray	1/11	1/6½	Thorpe Bay	1/11½	1/6½
*Birkenhead	‡§2/1	¶	Faversham	1/10	1/5½	Merthyr	2/0	1/7	Todmorden	2/0	1/7
Birmingham C.B.	†2/0	†1/7	Felixstowe	1/11	1/6½	Middlesbrough	2/0	1/7	Tonbridge	1/10½	1/5½
Bishop Auckland	2/0	1/7	Filey	1/10½	1/5½	Middleton	2/0	1/7	Torquay	1/11½	1/6½
Bishop's Stortford	1/11	1/6½	Fleetwood	2/0	1/7	Middlewich	1/11½	1/6½	Totnes	1/10	1/5½
Blackburn	2/0	1/7	Flint	2/0	1/7	Milford Haven	1/10½	1/5½	Trowbridge	1/9	1/4½
Blackpool	2/0	1/7	Folkestone	1/10	1/5½	Morecambe	2/0	1/7	Truro	1/9½	1/5
Blyth	2/0	1/7	Frinton-on-Sea	1/10	1/5½	Morley	2/0	1/7	Tunbridge Wells	1/10½	1/5½
Bognor Regis	1/10	1/5½	Frome	1/9	1/4½	Mundesley	1/9	1/4½	Uppingham (Salop)	1/11½	1/6½
Bolton	2/0	1/7	Gainsborough U.D.	1/11	1/6½	Nantwich	1/11½	1/6½	Uttoxeter U.D.	1/10½	1/5½
Bournemouth	1/11	1/6½	Gateshead	2/0	1/7	Nelson	2/0	1/7	Wakefield	2/0	1/7
Bracknell	1/10	1/5½	Gillingham (Kent)	1/11	1/6½	Newark-on-Trent	1/11½	1/6½	Walsall C.B.	2/0	1/7
Bradford	2/0	1/7	Glossop	2/0	1/7	Newbury	1/10	1/5½	Walsden	2/0	1/7
Bradford-on-Avon	1/9	1/4½	Gloucester	1/11½	1/6½	Newcastle-on-Tyne	2/0	1/7	Walton-on-Naze	1/10	1/5½
Braintree	1/10	1/5½	Godalming	1/10	1/5½	Newcastle-u.-Lyme	2/0	1/7	Ware	1/11½	1/6½
Brentwood	1/11½	1/6½	Goole	2/0	1/7	New Forest	1/10	1/5½	Warminster	1/9	1/4½
Bridgwater	1/10½	1/5½	Gosport	1/11½	1/6½	Newmarket	1/10	1/5½	Warrington	2/0	1/7
Bridlington	1/11½	1/6½	Grantham M.B.	1/11	1/6½	Newport, Mon.	2/0	1/7	Warwick M.B.	2/0	1/7
Brighouse	2/0	1/7	Gravesend	1/11½	1/6½	Newport Pagnell	1/10	1/5½	Wellington R.D.	1/11½	1/6½
Brighton	1/11	1/6½	Great Yarmouth	1/10	1/5½	Northampton C.B.	2/0	1/7	Welwyn	1/11	1/6½
Bristol	2/0	1/7	Grimsby	2/0	1/7	Norwich	2/0	1/7	Welwyn Gar. City	2/0	1/7
Broadstairs	1/10	1/5½	Guildford	1/10	1/5½	Nottingham	2/0	1/7	Wells (Norfolk)	1/8½	1/4½
Bromsgrove U.D.	1/11½	1/6½	Guilsborough	1/10½	1/5½	Nuneaton	2/0	1/7	West Bromwich C.B.	2/0	1/7
Buckley	2/0	1/7	Halifax	2/0	1/7	Oakham U.D.	1/10½	1/5½	Westcliff-on-Sea	1/11½	1/6½
Bungay	1/8	1/4	Hanley	2/0	1/7	Oldham	2/0	1/7	Weston-super-Mare	1/11	1/6½
Burnham-on-Crouch	1/8½	1/4½	Harpenden	1/11	1/6½	Ormskirk	2/0	1/7	Weybridge	1/11	1/6½
Burnley	2/0	1/7	Harrogate	2/0	1/7	Oxford	1/11½	1/6½	Weymouth	1/10	1/5½
Burslem	2/0	1/7	Hartlepools	2/0	1/7	Oxted	1/10½	1/5½	Whitby	1/11	1/6½
Burton-on-Trent C.B.	2/0	1/7	Harwich	1/10	1/5½	Paignton	1/11½	1/6½	Whitstable	1/10	1/5½
Bury	2/0	1/7	Haslemere	1/10	1/5½	Peterborough (Borough)	1/11½	1/6½	Widnes	2/0	1/7
Bury St. Edmunds	1/9½	1/5	Hastings	1/10	1/5½	Plymouth	2/0	1/7	Wigan	2/0	1/7
Buxton	1/11½	1/6½	Hatfield	1/11½	1/6½	Pontefract	2/0	1/7	Wigton	1/10½	1/5½
Byfleet	1/10½	1/5½	Haywards Heath	1/10	1/5½	Pontypridd	2/0	1/7	Willington	2/0	1/7
Cambridge	2/0	1/7	Hednesford	1/11½	1/6½	Port Talbot	2/0	1/7	Wilmslow	2/0	1/7
Canterbury	1/10	1/5½	Hemel Hempstead	1/11	1/6½	Portsmouth	1/11½	1/6½	Winchester	1/10½	1/5½
Cardiff	2/0	1/7	Henley-on-Thames	1/10	1/5½	Preston	2/0	1/7	Windermere	1/10½	1/5½
Carlisle	2/0	1/7	Hereford	1/10	1/5½	Pulborough	1/10	1/5½	Windsor	1/11	1/6½
Carnforth	2/0	1/7	Herne Bay	1/10	1/5½	Ramsgate	1/10	1/5½	Wisbech	1/9½	1/5
Castleford	2/0	1/7	Hertford	1/11½	1/6½	Reading	1/11½	1/6½	Witham	1/10	1/5½
Caterham	2/0	1/7	Heysham	2/0	1/7	Redditch U.D.	1/11½	1/6½	Woking	1/10½	1/5½
Chard	1/9	1/4½	Hitchin	1/11	1/6½	Redhill	1/10½	1/5½	Wokingham	1/10	1/5½
Chatham	1/11	1/6½	Hoddesdon	1/11½	1/6½	Ripon	1/10½	1/5½	Wolverhampton C.B.	2/0	1/7
Chelmsford	1/11½	1/6½	Holt (Norfolk)	1/8½	1/4½	Rochdale	2/0	1/7	Woodbridge	1/9½	1/5
Cheltenham	1/11	1/6½	Horley	1/10	1/5½	Rochester	1/11	1/6½	Worcester C.B.	1/11½	1/6½
Chepstow	1/11½	1/6½	Horsham	1/10	1/5½	Rugby M.B.	2/0	1/7	Workington	1/10½	1/5½
Chertsey	1/11	1/6½	Horwich	2/0	1/7	St. Albans	1/11½	1/6½	Worksop	1/11½	1/6½
Chester	2/0	1/7	Huddersfield	2/0	1/7	St. Helens	2/0	1/7	Worthing	1/10	1/5½
Chesterfield M.B.	2/0	1/7	Hull	2/0	1/7	St. Neots	1/9½	1/5	Wrexham	1/11½	1/6½
Chichester	1/10	1/5½	Hunstanton	1/9	1/4½	Saffron Walden	1/9	1/4½	Wroxham	1/9½	1/5
Chorley	2/0	1/7	Huntingdon	1/9½	1/5	Salisbury City	1/9½	1/5	Wycombe	1/11	1/6½
Cirencester	1/9½	1/5	Ilfracombe	1/10	1/5½	Salisbury Plain	1/11	1/6½	Wymondham	1/9	1/4½
Clacton	1/10	1/5½	Ingatestone	1/10½	1/5½	Sawbridgeworth	1/11½	1/6½	Yeovil	1/10½	1/5½
			Ipswich	1/11½	1/6½				York	2/0	1/7

* An application for an increase of rates is under discussion.

† Plus 2d. per working day. ‡ Plasterers 2/1½. ¶ Tradesmen's Labourers, 1/7½. Navvies and General Labourers, 1/6½.

§ Joiners, Plumbers, Bricklayers, Tilers and Masons receive 2/- per week or 4d. per day Tool Money.

NOTE.—Carpenters, Joiners and Plumbers in all Towns and Districts (other than Birkenhead and Liverpool) receive 2d. per day Tool Allowance.

For Building Trade Wages in Scotland, see page 421.

PRICES CURRENT OF MATERIALS*

NOTE.—These prices apply to large quantities of materials at works, at London stations, or site, in London area as stated. Prices for smaller quantities ex merchant's warehouse will of course be higher. Owing to the exceptional circumstances which prevail at the present time, prices of materials should be confirmed by inquiry. The prices of soft woods are for cash on delivery.

BRICKS, &c.

	£ s. d.
First Hard Stocks	4 13 0
Second Hard Stocks	4 6 0
Mild Stocks	3 13 0
Single Rough Stocks	3 7 0
Common Stocks	2 17 6

All loaded free into lorry at the works. The question of haulage is still very difficult and prices must be obtained from job to job. *In addition*, there will be the Levy under the Bricks (Charges) Order, 1942, of 3s. per 1,000.

2½ in. Phorpres. A discount of 6d. 1,000 only monthly account.	King's Cross Station per 1,000 s. d.	To sites in W.C District per 1,000 s. d.
Pressed	56 9	63 3
Keyed	58 9	65 3
Single Bullnose	76 9	83 3
Rustics	76 9	83 3
Whites	77 3	83 3

	£ s. d.
White Midhurst Best selected (delivered London site)	5 10 0
Best blue Pressed Staffs. (London Stns.)	11 12 0
Do. Bullnose (London Stns.)	12 2 0
Blue Wire Cuts (London Stns.)	10 9 6

Best Stourbridge Fire Brick (London Stns.) :—

£ s. d.	£ s. d.
2½ in. 10 0 0	3 in. 12 0 0

GLAZED BRICKS (London Stns.). Add 12½% to Prices.

Best White Ivory and Salt Glazed	D'ble Str'tch'rs	38 10 0
	D'ble Headers	35 10 0
Stretcher	30 0 0	One side&twoends 39 10 0
Headers	29 10 0	Twosides&one end 40 10 0
Quoins, Bullnose and 4½in. Flats	36 10 0	Splays and Squints 38 0 0

Second Quality, £2 per 1,000 less than best. Cream and buff, £2 extra over white. Other colours. Hard Glaze, £5 10s. extra over white.

ADD LEVY ON BRICKS. 3/- per 1,000 except Glazed Bricks.

PARTITION SLABS.

Delivered on site London Area.

"PHORPRES" HOLLOW PARTITION BLOCKS.

	s. d.		s. d.
2" per yd. sup.	2 8	3" per yd. sup.	3 6
2½" " " ..	2 11	4" " " ..	3 10

CLINKER CONCRETE.

2" per yd. sup.	1 11	3" per yd. sup.	2 6
2½" " " ..	2 3	4" " " ..	3 6

CRANHAM TERRA COTTA.

Size 12 x 9 x 2" per yd. super	2 8
Size 12 x 9 x 2½" " "	2 11
Size 12 x 9 x 3" " "	3 6
Size 12 x 9 x 4" " "	3 10

HEMPSTEAD—KEYED TWO SIDES.

12" x 9" x 2"	2 8	12" x 9" x 3"	3 6
12" x 9" x 2½"	2 11	12" x 9" x 4"	3 10

Per yard super d/d. Free on site, London.

Plus 2d. for smooth one side and 4d. for smooth both sides.

STONE.

	s. d.
BATH STONE.—Delivered in railway trucks at Westbourne Park, Paddington, G.W.R., or South Lambeth, G.W.R., per ft. cube	3 3½
BEER STONE—RANDOM BLOCK— Free on rail at Seaton Station per ft. cube	2 3
Delivered free on rail Nine Elms, S.R. "	3 1½
Selected approximate size one way, 1d. per cubic ft. extra, selected approximately three sizes or for special work, 3d. per cubic ft. extra.	
PORTLAND STONE— Brown Whitbed, in random blocks of 20 ft. average, delivered in railway trucks at Nine Elms, S. Rly., South Lambeth Station, G.W.R., and Westbourne Park, Paddington, G.W.R. .... per ft. cube	4 7
Do. do. delivered on road waggons as above stations ..... per ft. cub.	4 7
White basebed, 3d. per ft. cube extra.	
NOTE.—1d. per ft. cube extra for every ft. over 20 ft. *average* and ¼d. beyond 30 ft.	
HOPTON-WOOD STONE— F.O.R. Quarries, Wirksworth, Derbyshire, Random blocks from 10ft. and over P.ft.cb.	s. d. 13 2
Sawn two sides	26 11
Sawn three or four sides	31 11
YORK STONE, BLUE—*Robin Hood Quality* Delivered at any Goods Station, London.	
6 in. sawn two sides landings to sizes (under 30 ft. super) ..... per ft. super	5 6
6 in. rubbed two sides, ditto .. "	6 3
3 in. sawn two sides slabs (random sizes) ..... "	2 7
2 in. to 2½ in. sawn one side slabs (random sizes) (paving) .... "	1 8½
1½ in. to 2 in. ditto ..... "	1 4½
HARD YORK— Delivered at any Goods Station, London. Scrappled random blocks.....per ft. cube	6 10
6 in. sawn two sides landings to sizes (under 40 ft. super) .....per ft. super	5 7½
6 in. rubbed two sides, ditto .. "	6 9
4 in. sawn two sides slabs (random sizes) ..... "	3 5
3 in. ditto ditto ..... "	2 8
2 in. self-faced random flags .... per yd. super	8 9

CAST STONE.

Delivered in London area in full van loads, per ft. cube : Plain, 7s. 6d. Moulded, 8s. 6d. Small section cills and copings, 11s.

SAND.

Thames Ballast	11s. 6d. per yd.	delivered 2 miles radius Paddington
Pit Ballast	10s. 0d. " "	
Pit Sand	12s. 0d. " "	
Washed Sand	13s. 0d. " "	
¾ in. Shingle	10s. 6d. " "	
¾ in. Broken Brick	16s. 0d. " "	
Pan Breeze	10s. 0d. " "	

CEMENT.

Best British Portland Cement. Standard Specification, delivered London area.

	£ s. d.
6 ton loads and upwards site ..... per ton	2 11 0
1 ton to 6 tons site	2 14 0
Alongside Vauxhall in 80 ton lots	2 8 6
" Ferrocrete " Rapid Hardening Cement—	
6 ton loads and upwards site	2 17 0
1 ton to 6 tons site	3 0 0
Alongside Vauxhall in 80 ton lots	2 14 6
" Aquacrete " Water Repellent, " Blue Circle " cement, 30s. per ton on ordinary " Blue Circle " prices.	
" Colorcrete " Nos. 1 and 2. Coloured rapid Hardening Portland Cement in 6 ton lots	4 11 0
" Colorcrete " not rapid hardening, according to colour, from £7 to £15 10s. per ton.	
" Snowcrete " White Portland Cement (in free paper bags) 11 5 0	
Under one ton .. .. .. per cwt. 0 13 2	
" 417 " Cement (Ultra Rapid Hardening) Delivered Site London Area in 6 tons lots and upwards ..... 3 11 0.	
Plus packages at current prices.	
Super Cement (Waterproof), bags extra 4 1 0	

NOTE.—Jute sacks charged at 35s. 6d. nett per ton (20 sacks) for quantities of or exceeding one ton. Less than one ton 1s. 9½d. nett each.

Credit: 1s. 6d. nett each when returned in good condition within two weeks.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Roman Cement	8 10 0	Keene's Cement, White	7 0 0
Parian Cement	7 0 0	" " Pink	6 10 0

Cementone Colours for cement according to tints per cwt. from £3 5s. 0d.

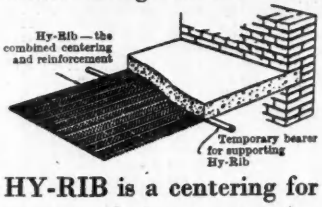
SLATES.

First quality slates from Penrhyn or Portmadoc, carriage paid in full truck loads to London Rate Station.

Per 1,000 actual.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
24 by 12	45 5 0	18 by 10	24 0 0
22 by 12	37 17 6	18 by 9	22 12 6
22 by 11	34 2 6	16 by 10	21 10 0
20 by 12	33 0 0	16 by 8	16 12 6
20 by 10	30 5 0		

HY-RIB is the answer to your centering problem

Use the reinforcing steel as centering for the slabs



HY-RIB is a centering for concrete during construction

HY-RIB is a reinforcement for the structural slab

Over 11,000,000 square feet of HY-RIB combined centering and reinforcement has been used in wartime buildings

For the guidance of Constructional Staffs we provide working drawings for particular applications of Hy-Rib.

HY-RIB
COMBINED CENTERING AND REINFORCEMENT

HY-RIB SALES, 6 COLLINGHAM GARDENS EARLS COURT, S.W.5. 'PHONE: FROBISHER 8141

An advertisement of The Trussed Concrete Steel Co. Ltd

4-526A

PLASTER.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Coarse, Pink ..	4 2 6	Sirapite, Coarse	4 8
" White	4 10 0	" Finish	4 14 6
Pioneer	5 5 0		

Above prices for 4-ton loads and over London Area.

Best Ground Blue Lias Lime	3 7 6	Grey Stone Lime	3 1 0
		Chalk Lime	3 1 0
Granite Chippings	1 15 0	Hair per cwt. ..	3 15 0

NOTE.—Sacks are charged 1s. 9d. each, and credited 1s. 6d. if returned in good condition within three months, carriage paid.

Stourbridge Fireclay in paper bags, £2 12s. 6d. in 6-ton lots at railway depot.

TILES.

Delivered at London rate stations in full truck loads of not less than 6 tons ..... Per 1,000 f.o.r. London.

Best machine-made tiles from Broseley or Staffordshire district	£5 18 0
Ditto hand-made ditto	7 2 0
Ornamental ditto	7 8 6
Hip and valley tiles (per dozen) { Hand-made	14 6
{ Machine-made.....	13 10

HARD WOOD.

1 INCH AND UP THICK.

Average price for prime quality	s. d.		Foot cube. £ s. d.
Dry English Wainscot Billets	16 0	to	0 18 0
Dry Slavonian Billet Wainscot ..	17 0	to	1 0 0
Dry Cuba Mahogany logs.....	21 0	to	1 4 0
Square-edged Honduras Mahogany			0 16 6
Log Cut Honduras Mahogany			0 17 6
American Figured Oak			0 13 0
American Plain Oak.....			0 12 6
Jap, Figured Oak			0 13 0
Jap, Plain Oak			0 12 6
Teak			0 15 6
American Whitewood			0 12 6
African Whitewood			0 8 0
African Mahogany			0 11 0
Australian Walnut			0 19 0
Australian Silky Oak			0 12 6
Best Scotch glue.....		per cwt.	5 0 0
Liquid glue.....		per gallon	1 2 0

SOFT WOOD.

MERCHANTABLE BRITISH COLUMBIAN PINE

	Minimum. £ s. d.	Maximum. £ s. d.
Scantlings in imported sizes 2 in. by 3 in. to 4 in. by 11 in.	47 0 0	58 0 0

PLANED BOARDS.

PRIME CLEAR BRITISH COLUMBIAN PINE.

	Per standard. £ s. d.
1 in. by 11 in. } 1 in. by 9 in. }	71 0 0
	Per square. s. d.
1 in. plain edge flooring	56 3
1¼ in. ditto	70 6
1 in. tongued and grooved	56 3
1¼ in. ditto	70 6

MATCHING

	Per square. s. d.
¾ in.	40 0
⅞ in.	45 3
1 in.	59 0

PLUMBERS' BRASS WORK.

Delivered in London.

M.O.H.

S.D. BIBCOCKS CRUTCH HEAD, FOR IRON

½ in.	¾ in.
33/-	51/- per doz.

TOILET BIB COCKS FOR IRON.

½ in.	¾ in.
60/-	72/- per doz.

S.D. STOP COCKS FOR IRON.

¼ in.	⅜ in.	½ in.	¾ in.	1 in.	1¼ in.	1½ in.	2 in.
33/-	48/-	86/-	209/-	281/-	456/- per doz.		

S.D.S. COCKS WITH TWO UNIONS FOR LEAD

¼ in.	⅜ in.	½ in.	¾ in.	1 in.	1¼ in.	1½ in.	2 in.
45/-	77/6	123/-	240/-	372/-	624/- per doz.		

DOUBLE NUT BOILER SCREWS.

¼ in.	⅜ in.	½ in.	¾ in.	1 in.	1¼ in.	1½ in.	2 in.
5/6	6/8	11/-	24/-	36/-	56/- per doz.		

HEAVY CROYDON BALL VALVES.

¼ in.	⅜ in.	½ in.	¾ in.	1 in.	1¼ in.
72/-	115/-	144/-	288/-	384/- per doz.	

CAPS AND SCREWS.

½ in.	¾ in.	1 in.	1¼ in.	1½ in.	2 in.	3 in.	3½ in.	4 in.
14/-	18/6	25/9	45/3	64/9	71/6 per doz.			

BRASS SLEEVES.

½ in.	¾ in.	1 in.	1¼ in.	1½ in.	2 in.	3 in.	3½ in.	4 in.
10/9	13/6	25/-	37/-	46/- per doz.				

LEAD TRAPS WITH BRASS CLEANING SCREWS

	½×6 lbs.	½×6 lbs.	2×7 lbs.	3×7 lbs.
Lead P.	26/-	34/-	55/-	92/- per doz.
Lead S.	34/-	41/-	67/-	115/- per doz.

SOLDER.—Plumbers', 1/6. Tinmen's, 1/11. Blow pipe, 2/3 per lb.

* The information given on this page has been specially compiled for THE BUILDER, and is copyright. The aim in this list is to give, as far as possible, the *average* prices of materials, not necessarily the highest or lowest. Quality and quantity obviously affect prices—a fact which should be remembered by those who make use of this information. Prices are subject to 2½ per cent. cash discount.

PRICES CURRENT OF MATERIALS—(contd.)

See Note at top of preceding page.

METALS.

JOISTS, GIRDERS, &c., to LONDON STATION PER TON—

	£ s. d.
R.S. Joists, cut and fitted	£24 0 0
Plain Compound Girders	26 10 0
" Stanchions	29 0 0
In Roof Work	35 0 0

NOTE.—These prices are for standard pieces and not special pieces of an awkward nature.

MILD STEEL ROUNDS.—To London Stations, per ton.

Diameter.	£ s. d.	Diameter.	£ s. d.
¼ in.	23 5 0	½ in.	21 15 0
⅜ in.	22 15 0	⅝ in. to 2½ in.	21 5 0
½ in.	22 5 0		

WROUGHT TUBES AND FITTINGS.

Deliveries from works.

Deliveries from London stock further 2½% gross.

10/17

	Tubes. ½"/⅝" %	Tubulars, and ½"/⅝" %	19/24" %	Flanges. ½"/2" %	2½"/6" %
Light weight	51½	—	47½	51	57½
Heavy weight	44	44	39½	41	49½
Galv. lightweight	30	—	30	30	30
Galv. heavyweight	20	20	20	20	20

Tubes and tubulars sizes ½"/⅝" inclusive, charged extra of 5% less gross.

Fittings. Figs. 25/34 5% less gross discount.

Terms.—Nett cash end of month following date of invoice. Carriage paid on lots of £10 nett value and over.

C.I. HALF-ROUND GUTTERS—London Prices ex Works, per yd. in 6 ft. lengths.

	Gutters.	Nozzles.	Stop ends.
3 in.	1/5¾	1/2½	4½d.
3½ in.	1/7	1/4	4½d.
4 in.	1/7	1/6	6½d.
4½ in.	1/8½	1/8½	7½d.
5 in.	2/0½	2/0	9d.

O.G. GUTTERS.

3 in.	1/10½	1/7½	5d.
3½ in.	2/1½	1/7½	6½d.
4 in.	2/1½	1/8½	7½d.
4½ in.	2/2½	1/11½	8½d.
5 in.	2/8½	2/3	10½d.

RAIN WATER PIPES.

Per yd. in 6 fts.	Pipe.	Bends. Stock angles.	Branches.
2 in.	2/2½	1/5½	2/2
2½ in.	2/3½	1/8½	2/7½
3 in.	2/8½	2/1½	3/2
3½ in.	3/2½	2/6½	3/7½
4 in.	3/8½	3/0½	4/5

NETT PRICES.

Tonnage allowance—4-ton lots, 5 per cent.
2-ton lots, 2½ per cent.

L.C.C. COATED SOIL PIPES—London Prices, ex Stock.

Per yd. in 6 fts.	Pipe.	Bends.	Branches
2 in.	3/9½	2/7½	3/2
2½ in.	4/5	2/10½	3/11½
3 in.	4/9	3/2	4/3½
3½ in.	4/10½	3/11½	5/5½
4 in.	5/3½	4/5	6/3½

L.C.C. COATED DRAIN PIPE.

	cwt. qr. lbs, in 9 fts.	per yard.	Bends.	Branches.
3 in.	0 3 14	5/10	6/11	11/–
4 in.	1 1 20	7/11	7/11	13/10
5 in.	1 2 22	10/1	14/2	21/5
6 in.	2 0 6	12/3	16/4	28/4

Gaskin, 75/- per cwt.

	Per ton basis in London. £ s. d.
IRON.—Staffordshire Crown, Merchant quality	18 7 6
IRON.—Staffordshire Marked Bars	19 7 6
Mild Steel Bars	17 15 0
Mild Steel Hoops	21 10 0
	Ex Merchant's Stock, per ton (two-ton lots).
Soft Steel Sheets, C.R. and C.A.—	
20 gauge	24 17 6
24 gauge	25 2 6
26 gauge	25 17 6
Galvanised Corrugated Sheets, 6 ft. to 9 ft.—	
20 gauge	27 0 0
24 gauge	27 10 0
26 gauge	28 15 0
Galvanised Flat Sheets, C.R. and C.A.—	
20 gauge	28 10 0
24 gauge	29 0 0
26 gauge	30 5 0
	Per ton £ s. d.
Cut Nails, 3 in. and up	28 10 0

ALL NETT.

METAL WINDOWS.—Standard sizes, suitable for complete houses, including all fittings, painting two coats, and delivery to job, average price about 2s. 4d. to 2s. 7d. per foot super.

PAINTS, &c.

	£ s. d.
Raw Linseed Oil (5 galls.) per gallon	0 6 3
Boiled Linseed Oil (5 galls.) "	0 6 7
Genuine Ground English White Lead, per cwt.	3 11 9
Genuine White Lead Paint, 14-lb. tins free, per cwt.	4 16 6
Genuine Red Lead "	2 18 6
Linseed Oil Putty (Kegs extra) "	1 3 9
Size, XD quality per fkn.	0 4 9

Turpentine substitute can be obtained and prices vary according to quality from 3/8 gallon upwards.

BUILDING TRADE WAGES IN SCOTLAND

Following are grade rates authorised by the Scottish N.J.C. from May 10. Every endeavour is made to ensure accuracy, but we cannot be responsible for errors that may occur.

Grade Classification	A	A1	A2	A3	B	B1
Craftsmen	2/0½	2/0	1/11½	1/11	1/10½	1/10
Labourers	1/7	1/6½	1/6¼	1/6	1/5½	1/5¼

Aberdeen	A	Dumfriesshire	A2	Inverness	*	Perthshire	A2
Ayrshire	A	Dundee	A	Inverurie	A1	Peterhead	A1
Banff	B	Dunoon	A	Kincardineshire	A2	Renfrewshire	A
Berwickshire	A2	East Fife	A	Kinross-shire	A	Rothesay	A
Bridge of Allan	A	East Lothian	A	Lanarkshire	A	Roxburghshire	A2
Broughty Ferry	A	Edinburgh	A	Midlothian	A	St. Andrews	A
Clackmannanshire	A	Fifeshire	A	Monifieth	A	Selkirkshire	A2
Doune	A	Forfarshire	A	Moray and Nairn	B	Stewartry	A2
Dunblane	A	Glasgow	A	Newport	A	Stirlingshire	A
Dumbartonshire	A	Greenock	A	Peeblesshire	A2	Stornoway	A2
Dumfries	A1	Hamilton	A	Perth	A	Tayport	A
						West Lothian	A

*This town has its own rates: Masons, 1/9½; Carpenters, 1/9½; Slaters, 1/9½; Plumbers, 1/10; Plasterers, 1/10½ but 1/11 is paid owing to the scarcity at present; Painters, 1/9½ and Labourers, 1/5.

The information given in this table is copyright. Rates of wages in England and Wales are given on page 419

VARNISHES, &c.

		Per gallon. £ s. d.
Oak Varnish	Outside	0 16 0
Fine do.	"	0 18 0
Fine Copal	"	1 0 0
Pale Copal	"	1 2 0
Pale Opal Carriage	"	1 6 0
Best do. do.	"	1 14 0
Floor Varnish	Inside	1 0 0
Fine Pale Paper	"	1 0 0
Fine Copal Cabinet	"	1 4 0
Fine Copal Flatting	"	1 2 0
Hard Drying Oak	"	1 0 0
Fine Hard Drying Oak	"	1 1 6
Fine Copal Varnish	"	1 2 6
Pale do.	"	1 14 0
Best do.	"	1 4 6
Best Japan Gold Size	"	1 14 6
Best Black Japan	"	0 12 0
Oak and Mahogany Stain (water)		0 14 0
Brunswick Black		0 9 6
Berlin Black		0 16 0
Knotting (patent)		0 17 0
French and Brush Polish		0 14 0
Liquid Dryers in Terebene		0 11 0

LEAD, &c.

(Delivered in London.)	Per ton. £ s. d.
LEAD.—Sheet, English, 4 lb. and up	38 0 0
Pipe in coils	38 10 0
Soil pipe	42 10 0
Compo pipe	47 10 0

NOTE.—Country delivery, 20/- per ton extra, lots under 3 cwt. 4/- per cwt. extra and over 3 cwt. and under 5 cwt., 2/6 per cwt. extra. Cut to sizes, 4/- per cwt. extra.

Old lead, ex London area, at Mills.....per ton £18 0 0.

The Hall Mark AYGEE of Craftsmanship

AIR RAID DAMAGE REPAIRS

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THE SCOTTISH BUILDER NEW BUILDINGS

BELLSHILL.—Lanarkshire C.C. to erect 40 houses, for which the architect is William Watt, Albert-st., Motherwell.

GLASGOW.—Plans prepared for alterations and additions at St. Vincent-st., for Y.M.C.A., Russell-sq., London, for which the architects are James Taylor, Thomson & Partners, 212, Bath-st., Glasgow.—Plans prepared for alterations and additions, for which the architects are James Monro & Son, 307, West George-st., Glasgow.

Concrete Flooring Exhibition.

An exhibition of concrete structural floors of various types and finishes is now on exhibition at 88, Regent-street, W. It has been staged by the Association of Constructional Flooring Specialists as a reply to recent ill-founded criticisms of concrete floors, and is intended to show that if the correct type of floor covering is chosen concrete structural floors compare in every way with the best types of traditional floors. The exhibition closes on November 26.

GLASS.

SHEET GLASS, ORDINARY GLAZING QUALITY CUT SIZES.

	Per ft. super. d.
18 oz.	3½
24 oz. Clear or "R" quality	4½
26 oz.	5½
32 oz.	7½

ENGLISH ROLLED PLATE AND FIGURED CATHEDRAL, ETC., IN CUT SIZES.

Over 500 ft. super of all kinds.	Per ft.
Rolled plate, ¼ in.	5½d.
Rough cast double rolled, ⅜ in.	6½d.
Rough cast double rolled, ½ in.	6½d.
Figured rolled, and Cathedral, white	6½d.
Figured rolled and Cathedral, tinted	9½d.
Rolled Sheet	6d.
Reeded, Broad Reeded, Cross Reeded and Chevron Reeded, ¼ in. thick	10½d.

Rolled plate is the same price as rough cast: double rolled.

	Per ft. s. d.
Wire Rolled, ¼ in. thick	0 9½
Wire Cast, ¼ in. thick	0 9½
Georgian Wired Cast	0 10
"Calorex" Sheet, 21 oz.	2 6
" " 32 oz.	4 0
" Cast, ¼ in. thick	0 9½
" " ⅜ in. thick	1 0
" " ½ in. thick	1 2
Non Actinic Glass, ¼ in. thick	0 9½
" " " ⅜ in. thick	1 0
" " " ½ in. thick	1 2

"VITA" GLASS.

	Per ft. s. d.
"Vita" Plate Glass, about ⅓ in. thick—	
To 7 ft. super	5 0
Over 7 ft. super	7 6
"Vita" Sheet Glass, about 18/20 oz.	2 0
Cathedral "Vita" Glass:	
¼ in. thickness	2 0
⅜ in. "	3 0
⅛ in. Georgian Wired "Vita" Glass	3 6

GLASS BRICKS.

	s. d.	
P.B. 1—8 in. × 4⅞ in. × 3⅞ in.	2 9	each nett
P.B. 2—5½ in. × 5½ in. × 3⅞ in.	2 6	"
P.B. 3—7½ in. × 7½ in. × 3⅞ in.	3 6	"
P.B. 32—7½ in. × 7½ in. × 3⅞ in.	3 6	"

Radiused Corner Bricks to match up with—

P.B. 2	4 6	each nett
P.B. 3	6 0	"
P.B. 32	6 0	"

(*Continued from page* 418.)

work. It was, of course, the policy of the Ministry to grant licences for essential work to dwellings in all proper cases, on the same basis as that authorised for Local Authorities.

Essential Repairs.

MR. HIGGS asked the Minister of Labour if he was aware of the difficulties that landlords were experiencing in getting essential repairs done to roofs, etc., of farm buildings; and would he therefore discontinue the calling up of building operatives in country districts who were engaged on this work.

MR. BEVIN said that under present arrangements building operatives who were not in the lowest age groups were not being called up, but they would be considered for transfer to work of high priority. The importance of essential repairs to farm buildings was fully recognised and would be taken into account before any man engaged on that work was withdrawn.

The Call-Up.

MR. R. MORRISON asked the Minister of Labour whether it was proposed to continue the call-up of small building contractors over 40 years of age, fully employed as contractors to local authorities for repair of damaged houses urgently needed in industrial areas.

MR. BEVIN said that under present arrangements building contractors over 40 years of age were not being called up for the Forces. When it was proposed to transfer such men to other work the value of the work on which they were engaged was taken into consideration and the need to repair damaged houses was not overlooked.

War Damage.

CAPTAIN GAMMANS asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer if the cost-of-works payment under the War Damage Act was equally applicable to factory and office property which had been completely destroyed by war damage where such property was erected after March, 1914, or where, in the case of properties erected before that date, the War Damage Commission was satisfied that the structure was practically as sound as at the date of building and that the design and layout were reasonably equal to similar buildings erected since 1914.

SIR J. ANDERSON said that the recent Treasury Direction made under Section 20 of the War Damage Act, 1943, was designed to further the requirements of the public interest as respected the provision of housing accommodation and was specifically restricted to dwelling-house property. At the same time, it did not by any means follow that because an industrial or commercial property was completely destroyed a value payment and not a cost-of-works payment was appropriate. The classification depended upon the quality of the building destroyed and the value of the site on which it stood.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL DOWER asked the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Works if he was aware that applications to repair damaged houses were frequently not made owing to the serious loss of time and labour involved in supplying plans and other requirements of the Ministry for which there was no compensation if the application was refused; and, in view of the urgent necessity for the provision of houses, if he would consider paying reasonable costs of preparing plans or making alternative suggestions for carrying out the work by the Ministry in all reasonable cases.

MR. HICKS said that a new application form was being introduced which made it clear that if plans or specifications had not already been prepared, a decision in principle on the application was given and plans and specifications only asked for subsequently if required. The cost of preparing such plans or specifications could not, in the circumstances, be met from public funds.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL DOWER asked the Prime Minister if, in view of the urgent necessity for repairing war-damaged houses and of the difficulty owners and tenants of such houses had in obtaining an interpretation of the law owing to Ministry of Health circulars, Ministry of Works licensing rules, War Damage Commission instructions and Ministry of Town and Country Planning Orders and other interested authorities' regulations, several of which overlapped, he would consider issuing a White Paper showing clearly how the existing law now stood.

MR. CHURCHILL said that arrangements were being made for the issue of a leaflet giving the necessary guidance in a brief and popular form. This leaflet, when approved, would be available free to all enquirers.

Government Buildings.

SIR P. HURD asked the Minister of Town and Country Planning what action he was taking to ensure that the N.F.S. and other war time bodies were not erecting buildings with disregard of town planning schemes and without prior consultation with his department and the local authorities concerned.

MR. W. S. MORRISON said that it had been agreed between the Departments concerned that Local Planning Authorities and Regional Planning Officers should be consulted about the requisitioning of sites and the erection of new buildings thereon. While this was the normal procedure, it could not always be followed in cases of extreme urgency, and war time necessities must sometimes override the provisions of town planning schemes.

OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION

Purchase Tax: Tile Curbs.

The following decision regarding the liability of curbs of tiles or other material to tax is published as supplementary to those already given in Notice No. 78: The Commissioners of Customs and Excise have further considered the liability to Purchase Tax of curbs and have decided that curbs made of tiles, metal or other material are chargeable with tax irrespective of whether or not they are intended for fixing into place. The item "curbs, moveable, not built into the hearth" in the chargeable column on page 20 of Notice No. 78 should accordingly be amended to read "curbs of tiles, metal or other material."

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FUTURE CONSTRUCTION

The Editor welcomes authentic information for this section from architects, surveyors or contractors. Items should reach 4, Catherine-street, Aldwych, W.C.2, not later than Tuesday morning.

CONTRACTS OPEN

For some contracts still open, but not included in this list, see previous issues. Those with an asterisk are advertised in this number. The dates at the heads of paragraphs are those for the submission of tenders; a dagger (†) denotes closing date for applications; the name and address at the end refer to the person from whom particulars may be obtained.

BUILDING

NOVEMBER 22.

Montgomeryshire E.C.—Structural alterations at Churchstoke C.E. school for school kitchen. T. G. Davies, D. of E., County Offices, Newtown. Dep. £2 2s.

Wick T.C.—Work in various trades required in erection of 14 blocks containing 40 houses of three, four and five apartments at Ackergill-st. Burgh S., Wick. Dep. £2 2s.

NOVEMBER 23

Knaresborough U.D.C. — Rebuilding of bungalow at Frogmire housing estate. G. H. Davis, S., Council Offices. Dep. £1.

Ruislip-Northwood U.D.C. – Repairs and decorations to requisitioned properties. E. and S., Council Offices, Northwood.

DECEMBER 3.

Rochester and Chatham Joint Hospital Board.—For carrying out certain work at St. William's Hospital for infectious diseases. W. E. R. Randall, architect, 23, Railway-st., Chatham.

DECEMBER 6.

***Beckenham T.C.**—Erection and completion of prefabricated concrete nursery building, together with brick-built shelter at West Wickham. James Dove, A.M.Inst.C.E., B.E. and S., Town Hall. Dep. £2.

Hillsborough R.D.C.—Erection of action station and minor alterations to wardens' post. Gamble and Maxwell, 35, Royal-ave., Belfast. Dep. £2 2s.

Richmond (Surrey) T.C.—For making good damage to 2 houses. B.E., Hotham House, Heron Court, Richmond. Dep. £1 1s.

NO DATE.

Carmarthen.—Erection of small factory for drying and cleaning seeds. W. Griffiths and Son, Falcon-chbrs., Llanelly. Dep. £2 2s.

PAINTING, ELECTRIC LIGHTING, HEATING, ETC.

NOVEMBER 23.

Huddersfield T.C.—Internal decorations to front and back lodges at Mill Hill Isolation Hospital. B.E. and S., High-st. bldgs., Huddersfield.

NOVEMBER 25.

West Riding C.C.—Internal renovation at Grammar School, Goole. E. L. Harrap, Education Offices, Goole.

NOVEMBER 26.

†**Essex C.C.**—External painting of buildings, railings, etc., at Suttons Institution, Hornchurch. Estimated cost £2,500. Jno. Stuart (F.), County Architect, County Hall, Chelmsford.

North Riding E.C.—Internal decoration work at Grammar School, Northallerton. Education Offices, County Hall, Northallerton.

ENGINEERING, IRON AND STEEL

DECEMBER 6.

Newport Pagnell U.D.C.—For laying 250 yds. of 9-in. porous concrete pipes and other incidental works. J. F. Hopkins, S., 60, High-st., Newport Pagnell. Dep. £1 1s.

ROAD, SEWERAGE AND WATER WORKS

NOVEMBER 29.

Alfreton U.D.C.—Relaying length of 9-in. outfall sewer. H. Taylor, M.Inst.C.E., Consulting E., Regal-chbrs., Cavendish-st., Chesterfield. Dep. £2 2s.

DECEMBER 4.

Orpington U.D.C.—Construction of foul-water sewer. Thomas Watson, M.Inst.C.E., E. and S., "Bark Hart," Orpington. Dep. £3 3s.

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

NOVEMBER 22.

Cheshire E.C.—Full-time Teacher of Building Subjects for Day and Evening Classes. Forms of application from F. F. Potter, D. of E., County Education Offices, City-rd., Chester.

NOVEMBER 25.

Oxford T.C.—Temporary Architectural Assistant. £350-£400, plus £45 10s. bonus. J. C. Riddell, B.Sc., A.M.Inst.C.E., Surveyor, Town Hall.

NOVEMBER 27.

East Ham, E.C.—Full-time Instructor in Plumbing at School of Building. Application form from A. A. Garrard, Secretary for Education, Education Office, Town Hall Annexe, Barking-rd., East Ham, E.6.

NOVEMBER 30.

***Leeds E.C.**—Temporary Lecturer in Architecture at School of Architecture, Leeds College of Art. Forms of application from Director of Education, Education Offices, Leeds, 1. (Stamped and addressed envelope required.)

Nottingham T.C.—Deputy City Engineer. £800-£1,000. J. R Richards, T.C., Guildhall.

DECEMBER 1.

***Cumberland C.C.**—Two Temporary Architectural Assistants. Forms of application from County Architect, 4, Alfred-st. North, Carlisle.

DECEMBER 15.

***Brighton Technical College.** — Full-time Teacher for Plumbing Trade Classes, and to assist in work of General Building Course. Forms of application from F. Herbert Toyne, 54, Old Steine, Brighton, 1.

GENERAL BUILDING WORK

Birtley.—Nursery school to be extended. Plans by County Education Architect, 34, Old Elvet, Durham.

Braunstone.—P.C. propose provision of community hall.

Bridgnorth.—British Legion local branch propose erection of new headquarters.

Bury.—T.C. approved extensions to bakehouse at Bolton-rd., for Wellington Bakery, Ltd.

Bury.—E.C. propose renovations to Alderman Smith Infants' school, Elton Council Infants' school and St. Mark's Junior dept.

Chinley.—P.C. of Chinley, Buxworth and Brownside propose erection of village hall.

Cumberland.—C.C. approved proposals for erection of maternity home at Penrith, at £5,000.

Durham.—C.C. propose mortuary at Holywood Hall sanatorium, at £1,750.

Felling-on-Tyne.—U.D.C. approved conversion of Woodbine House, Wardley, into club premises for British Legion.

Gomersal.—The Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Association Board of Management propose adaptation of Gomersal House for use as hostel for dependants of serving men.

Kendal.—T.C. propose conversion of Abbot Hall mansion into nursery. Plans by G. German, B.S.

Kettering.—T.C. approved: Extensions to youth centre, George-st., for Committee of Service of Youth; boot store, Avondale-rd., for Wilson & Watson, Ltd.

Kirby Muxloe.—P.C. propose community centre at Leicester Forest East.

Knutsford.—Board of Management of Bucklow Joint Hospital Board propose erection of Infectious Diseases hospital.

Newcastle-under-Lyme. — Parker's Burslem Brewery, Ltd., Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, propose to acquire site at junction of London-rd. and Penkhull-st., for erection of hotel.

Oldham.—T.C. approved erection of prefabricated building for club premises at Clegg-st. Mill site for Oldham Management Committee of the Recreational Clubs for Women War Workers' Association.

Ripon.—Pennington, Hustler & Taylor, 45, Ropergate, Pontefract, are architects for rebuilding of Opera House cinema, Low Skellgate, for Directors of Victoria Opera House (Ripon), Ltd.

Rochdale.—T.C. approved hostel at West Bank, Oakenrod Hill, for Turner Bros. Asbestos Co., Ltd., Spotland.

Rochdale. — T.C. propose rebuilding Norden police station.

Rugby.—Warwickshire E.C. propose additions to technical college, at £2,000.

Salford.—T.C. propose conversion of "South Bank," Sandy-la., Pendleton, into remand home.—T.C. approved reconstruction of portion of Town Hall, at £9,500. Plans by W. Albert Walker, B.E.

Spenborough.—U.D.C. propose adaptation of Brookhouse Mills for use as depot.

Sunderland.—W. & T. R. Milburn, 17, Fawcett-st., Sunderland, prepared plans for shop and offices.

BRITISH RESTAURANTS AND CANTEENS

Bolton.—T.C. approved kitchen at St. Helens-rd., for Trustees of Zion Methodist Church.

Crook and Willington.—U.D.C. propose to provide B.R. at Crook. Plans by S., Council Offices, Crook.

Derbyshire.—E.C. propose 66 additional feeding centres and kitchens at schools, also central kitchen at Matlock and certain small kitchens at non-provided schools.

Halifax. — T.C. propose canteen kitchen at Lower Clay Pits, Pellon.

Leicestershire.—E.C. propose extensions to feeding centres at Kilworth, at £475; Hungerton, at £250; Newton Linford, at £300; Tugby, at £150; Witherley, at £400; Anstey, at £250; Whetstone, at £225; Enderby, at £330; and Anstey Latimer-rd., at £135.

Manchester.—E.C. propose central kitchen at Longsight.

Middleton.—E.C. propose prefabricated building for dining-hall at Parish C.E. school, Durnford-st.

Newcastle-under-Lyme.—T.C. propose B.R. at Basford.

North Riding. — E.C. to spend a further £4,165 on provision of canteen and dining centres at schools.

Ossett.—T.C. propose central kitchen at Croft House.

Redcar.—T.C. granted land nr. Turner-st., to North Riding E.C. for erection of canteen kitchen.

Stoke-on-Trent.—E.C. propose feeding centres at Normacot and Edensor C.E. schools, Meir Senior school, Junior school and Infants' school, Edensor school.

Swadlincote.—U.D.C. propose B.R. at Gresley.

Wolverhampton.—E.C. propose dining centre at Heath Town C.E. school.

Worsley.—Lancashire E.C. propose central kitchen on site of Walkden Senior school. Plans by L. Evans, County Architect, County-bldgs., Fishergate-hill, Preston.

A.R.P. SCHEMES

LONDON.

Wandsworth.—B.C. accepted quotation of John Lightfoot, at £289, for installation of electric lighting at sub-control centre.

PROVINCIAL.

Manchester.—H. S. Fairhurst & Son (FF.), Chancery-chbrs., 55, Brown-st., are architects for erection of fire pump house and store at works.

Middlesbrough.—E.C. received sanction to borrow £16,469 for provision of school shelters.

Oldham.—T.C. propose provision of fire guard reserve centre.—T.C. placed contract with James Hartley, Cobden-st., Chadderton, Oldham, for erection of fire station.

Radcliffe.—T.C. received approval for adaptation of premises at Blackburn-st., for use as fire guard offices.—T.C. propose fire guard sector post at Close Methodist Infants' schools.

Stockport.—T.C. approved plans for control centre at fire station.

TENDERS

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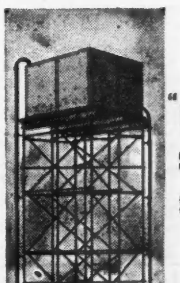
* Denotes *accepted*.
† Denotes *provisionally accepted*.
‡ Denotes *recommended for acceptance*.
§ Denotes *accepted subject to modification*.
¶ Denotes *accepted by H.M. Government departments*.

Atherton.—Erection of garage at Water-st., for T.C. Frank L. Boydell, S., Town Hall: *A. E. Prescott, Ltd., Leigh.

Bolton.—Reroofing at Castle Hill school, for T.C.: *D. Anderson & Son, Ltd., Park-rd., Stretford, Manchester.

Bolton.—Store, trailer pump house and foreman's cabin at works: *H. Mason & Sons, Ltd., 26, Moor-la., Bolton.



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Cheshunt.—Erection of cow barn and dairy at Bury Green Farm, for U.D.C. A. Burton Stibbon, F.R.S.A., M.Inst.M. & Cy.E., S.:—

J. A. Stirling	£3,676
Dobson & Sewell	2,807
Palmer Bros.	2,659
Sparks & Son	2,580
C. H. Cheston	2,519
G. Davies & Son	2,472
A. J. Maxfield & Son	2,400
Amalgamated Building Contractors	2,370
Lester Construction Co.	2,355
Intrade, Ltd.	2,340
W. T. E. Duncan	2,295
H. C. Leach	2,174
E. W. Smith	2,149
Norman Colls	2,112
C. & A. Catchpole	2,085
Newland Bros.	2,030
*Moore & Wood, Ltd.	1,979

Durham.—Internal renovations at Seaham Hall sanatorium, for C.C.: *G. W. Hutson, West Hartlepool, £350.

Heywood.—Improvements to lavatories at Bullough Moor and Regent-st. schools, for E.C. A. Middleton, B.S.: *P. Peacock & Co., 19, Manchester-rd., Heywood.

Leeds.—Erection of standard B.C.F. hutted nursery at the Circus, Cross Gates, for Public Health Dept. H. R. Hudson, A.I.A.S., Superintendent of Works and Buildings, 123, Beckett-st.: *Harold Arnold & Son, Ltd., Standard-bldgs., Leeds 1, £1,727.

¶London (Air Ministry).—List of new contracts to value of £500 or over for week ended November 6.

Heating work: Jeffrey & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.1; G. N. Haden & Sons, Ltd., London, W.C.1; Rosser and Russell, Ltd., London, W.1; Brightside Foundry and Engineering Co., Ltd., Birmingham.

General maintenance work: T. Gill & Son, Norwich; Hadsphaltic Construction Co., Ltd., Wellington, Salop; Francis Jackson Developments, Ltd., Northwood, Middx.; A. N. Coles (Contractors), Ltd., Plymouth.

Supply and erection of structural steelwork: Tees Side Bridge and Engineering Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; Octavius Atkinson, Ltd., Harrogate; William Bain & Co., London, S.W.15; Cleveland Bridge & Engineering Co., Ltd., Darlington; Dorman Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; P. & W. McLellan, Ltd., Glasgow; Francis Morton & Co., Ltd., Liverpool, 19; Motherwell Bridge & Engineering Co., Ltd., Motherwell; Robert Watson & Co. (Constructional Engineers), Ltd., Bolton, Lancs; Glasgow Steel Roofing Co., Ltd., Glasgow, N.; Redpath Brown & Co., Ltd., Glasgow, C.2; Banister Walton & Co., Ltd., Manchester, 17; Dawnays, Ltd., London, S.W.11; Cargo Fleet Iron Co., London, S.W.1; Fleming Bros., Glasgow, C.2; Rubery Owen & Co., Ltd., London, W.C.2; Smith Walker, Ltd., London, S.W.1.

Erection of structural steelwork: Brownlie and Murray, Ltd., Glasgow, N.; Wilfred Robbins & Co., Ltd., Great Bridge, Staffs; Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Norwich.

Road work: Cementation Co., Ltd., London, S.W.1.

Civil engineering work: Sir Robert McAlpine & Sons, Ltd., London, W.1; Howard Farrow, Ltd., London, N.W.11; A. Richmond & Sons, Retford, Notts; Neuchatel Asphalt Co., Staines, Middx.

Building work: Kerridge (Cambridge), Ltd., Cambridge.

Surface dressing work: Taroads, Ltd., London, N.6.

Aerodrome surface work: Trent Valley (Construction) Co., Birmingham; Montague L. Meyer, Ltd., Aldwych, London, W.C.2.

Water supply work: Duke & Ockenden, Ltd., Littlehampton, Sussex.

Installation work: Simmons & Hawker, London, S.W.18.

Constructional work: Riley & Neale, Ltd., Winchester.

¶London (Air Ministry).—List of new contracts to value of £500 or over for week ended November 13.

Building work: John Laing & Son, Ltd., London, N.W.7; A. J. Dunning & Sons, Weyhill, Hants; Staverton (Builders), Ltd., Totnes, Devon.

Agricultural work: Delahope, Ltd., York; H. O. Andrews, Leeds, 8; Grassphalte, Ltd., Maidstone, Kent; Clark Bros., Swindon.

Fencing work: J. F. Booth & Son, Banbury, Oxon; J. H. Carr & Sons, Ltd., Selby, Yorks.

Electrical work: Woolman Electrical Contractors, Ltd., Leeds, 8; Riley & Neate, Winchester.

Painting work: A. C. Beeson & Sons, Great Grimsby; P.C.S., Ltd., London, S.W.1.

Aerodrome surface work: Maxwell Hart, Ltd., Reading, Berks.

Surface dressing work: Allweather Mechanical Grouting Co., Guildford, Surrey; Bituminous Road Products, Ltd., Middlesbrough, Yorks.

Surfacing work: North Lonsdale Tarmacadam, Ltd., Sheffield; Crowley Russell & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks.

Well boring work: Cementation Co., Ltd., London, S.W.1.

Erection of structural steelwork: Palmers Hebburn & Co., Ltd., Hebburn-on-Tyne.
Constructional work: J. Gerrard & Sons, Ltd., Manchester.

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Heating work: Norris Warming Co., Ltd., London, W.C.1.
General maintenance work: G. W. Oliver & Sons, Ltd., Basingstoke; A. N. Coles (Contractors), Ltd., Plymouth.

¶London (Ministry of Works).—Contracts placed by M.O.W. during week ending November 11:—
Caernarvonshire: Building work, Wm. Evans, Wynn-av., Old Colwyn, N. Wales.
Ches: Building work, C. Cornes & Son, Litchfield-st. Works, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent.
Dorsetshire: Building work, Williams Bros., 7, Parsons-pool, Shaftesbury, Dorset.
Glamorgan: Building work, Wates, Ltd., 1258-1260, London-rd., Norbury, S.W.16.
Hampshire: Building work, Kent & Sussex Contractors, Ltd., Carlton-rd., Erith, Kent; Hamtun, Ltd., 20, Havelock-rd., Southampton.
Lanarkshire: Building work, James Miller & Partners, Ltd., 68, Hanover-st., Edinburgh.
Lancs: Building work, T. Croft & Sons, Ltd., Holme Slack Works, Blackpool-rd., Preston; Lane & Sons (Builders), Ltd., 50, Clifton-st., Blackpool; William Beetham, Ltd., Guildhall-st., Preston.
Worcs: Building work, Perks & Gould, Cambridge-st., Bilston, Staffs; Thos. Broad, Ltd., Graham Works, Malvern.
Yorks: Building work, R. Finch, Sons & Co., Ltd., 230, Ings-rd., Hull.

¶London (War Dept.).—Works contracts placed by War Dept. for week ended November 6:—
Yorks: Miscellaneous work, Geo. Hope (Builders), Ltd., Stockton-on-Tees; W. Garbutt & Sons, Sleights, Yorks.
Lancs: Hutting (erection), etc., John Lucas & Son (Builders), Ltd., Prescot, Lancs; steelwork, John Booth & Son (Bolton), Ltd., Bolton.
Ches: Hutting (erection), etc., A. Hopley (Little Sutton), Ltd., Little Sutton, Ches.
Caernarvonshire: Hutting (erection), John Hughes (Contractors), Ltd., Wrexham.
Shropshire: Miscellaneous work, Parsons & Morrin, Ltd., Birmingham.
Oxfordshire: Miscellaneous work, Gleeson Development Co., Ltd., North Cheam, Surrey.
London, S.W.: Miscellaneous work, Frank Batty & Smith, Ltd., London, W.2.
Bristol: Hutting (erection), Benson Bros. (Bristol), Ltd., Bristol.
Somerset: Hutting (erection), Stansell & Son (Taunton), Ltd., Taunton; H. Hoskings, Taunton.
Hampshire: Miscellaneous work, John Hunt (Chandler), Ltd., Gosport; Bagshaw & Son, Ltd., Southampton.
Dorset: Hutting (erection) and miscellaneous work, Crosby & Co., Ltd., Farnham, Surrey.

Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Provision of additional accommodation for City Treasurer's Dept., at Corn Exchange, Town Hall, for City Council: *Elliott Bros., Otterburn-ter., Newcastle-on-Tyne, £178.

Manchester.—Additions to works:—*Thompson & Brierley, Ltd., Union Saw Mills, Bury; additions to works: *J. Riley & Sons, 59, Forgela., Bradford, Manchester 11; office extensions at works: *J. Gerrard & Sons, Ltd., 55, Brown-st., Manchester 2.

Ossett.—Repairs to gables at Town Hall, for T.C. J. A. A. Pratt, B.S.: *Matthes & Son (Contractors) Ltd., Railway-st., Marsh-la., Leeds 9, £426.

Rochdale. — Works for T.C.: Alterations to Meanwood school: *Bierley & Castree, Mellor-st., Rochdale; repairs at technical school: *James Glynn, Scholes-st., Oldham.

Stretford.—Erection of two prefabricated buildings at Gorse Hill for additional accommodation for Stretford High School for Girls, for Lancashire E.C. L. Evans, County Architect, County-bldgs., Fishergate-hill, Preston: *W. Lionel Gray (1933), Ltd., Hospital-bldgs., Hospital-rd., Farnworth, nr. Bolton, £1,118.

Whitby.—Painting of 96 houses at Gallow Close estate, for U.D.C.: *G. W. Trueman, Baxtergate, £516.

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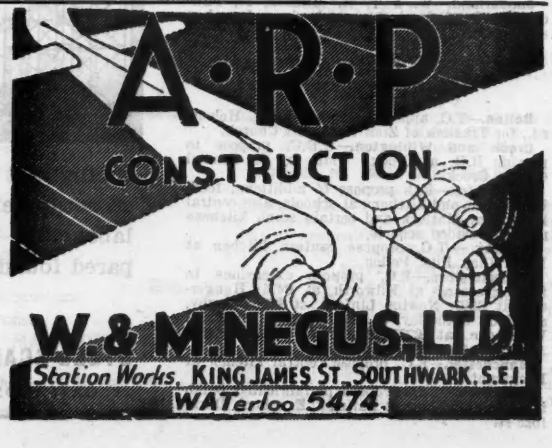
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